



# Table Tennis England

Annual Review 2016/17





**3 Chairman's Foreword**

**4-5 Chief Executive's Statement**

**6-7 Operations**

**8 Marketing & Communications**

**9 Commercial**

**10 Membership & Ranking**

**11-13 Development**

**14-15 Competitions & Events**

**16 Workforce**

**17-19 Performance**

**20-21 Notable Achievements**

**22-33 Season review**

**34-35 Awards & Thanks**

**36 Mission 2025 Update**

**37 International Matters**

**38-39 Staff & Governance**

**40-42 Accounts**

**43 Obituaries**

*Editor's note: This review covers departmental activity and financial matters for the year to March 31, 2017. For competition and performance matters, obituaries and notable achievements, the period covered is the 2016/17 season.*

This is the fourth occasion I have prepared the Chairman's foreword for our annual review. In that time, we have seen many highs and a few lows on and off the table. It has also been a period of necessary change, not just for table tennis, but for all sports, as we adjusted to the realities of a more restricted financial climate.

I am so pleased and proud of the way our sport – through our clubs, leagues, players, officials, members, volunteers and staff – has adapted to the challenges we have faced.

In my first annual report I spoke about how our journey was only just beginning. We had made some difficult but necessary changes and had set about laying the foundations for the future.

We set ourselves objectives – we wanted table tennis to be an accessible open sport for all ages, for all levels – for life. We wanted everyone talking about table tennis. We wanted to make strides forward on the international playing field and we wanted to develop a programme which allowed everyone to play to their level, whether reaching their full potential as an elite athlete or enjoying clubs and leagues or occasionally taking part in the social side of the game.

As a sports National Governing Body, our 'brief' lies not only in serving our members, but also in helping to deliver sport to the nation. Table tennis has been well equipped to do this and the projects for mass and social participation such as Ping! and Loop have proved popular and successful by introducing the sport to a wider audience.

In the past few months, there has been an important switch in emphasis on the remit given to National Sports Governing Bodies by the Government. Going forward, we have the chance to use the majority of the public sector funding we receive towards developing our 'core market' - that of our clubs, leagues and players.

This is a great opportunity for us to focus on the essence of our competitive sport and work directly with our members to improve the table tennis experience for them.

Four years ago, I said our journey was beginning. We are still on that road and have further to go to realise our ambitions.

Elsewhere in this report, we explain in detail some of the landmarks of the past 12 months and I am very grateful to our staff and volunteers for their help and dedication in achieving this. I won't repeat those achievements here but do want to make reference to some of them.

## **Volunteers**

Our volunteers are an essential part of our sport. Hundreds of people devote thousands of hours of their time to make the game more enjoyable for others. Often these people go unrecognised, but never unappreciated.

To honour some of these volunteers we launched the Pride of Table Tennis Awards this year to build on the existing Volunteer Awards. More than 200 nominations were received from the table tennis family, in a range of categories including clubs, coaches, volunteers and officials.

We were delighted to be able to honour some of these worthy winners in an awards lunch at our National Championships. Their contributions were singled out and recognised, but they are also representative of all our volunteers and the impact they make on our sport. Our thanks to you all.

## **Elite athletes**

Our international athletes, the English Leopards, have had remarkable successes in the last few years, which have seen them closing the gap between other European Nations and the rest of the world.

This year we were able to showcase our elite talent to audiences around the country as the



**Sandra Deaton**

England men and women took on international competition in the European Team Championships Qualifiers. It was a great opportunity to bring that level of table tennis to home soil - and we hope it will be there will be many occasions in the future when the world's elite players visit England.

Our prestige event, the PG Mutual Senior National Championships took place at the University of Nottingham attracting quality performances from our top men and women, including Olympians and Paralympians. We are continuing to take innovative action to broadcast these events to a new audience of social media viewers as well as the more traditional media outlets.

Olympic year saw some great individual achievements in Rio, particularly from our Paralympians.

In addition to their performances on the table, our elite squad of athletes - Olympians and Paralympians, men and women - are a credit to our sport and wonderful ambassadors for table tennis. Congratulations to you all.

## **Clubs and Volunteer Conferences**

It is important for Table Tennis England senior staff and Board members to be able to meet and discuss issues with people 'on the ground'. To help achieve this, we have introduced a series of Club and Volunteer Conferences which will be rolled out nationwide in the coming months.

This also allows Clubs, Leagues and counties to share their knowledge and experiences with us and with each other. To date, they have been well received and we hope from these events, best practice will become common practice as we learn from each other and identify what we can do to help you.

## **Be TT**

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, we will be going forward with the intention of devoting more resources to Clubs and Leagues. It should be recognised that we can't provide a solution to every problem or issue, but what we can do is to provide the resources and support you need to improve table tennis for all players.

We have recently introduced a new programme 'Be TT' aimed specifically at clubs and leagues and I would encourage you to consider how you could benefit from this.

## **Conclusion**

Finally, my thanks to my fellow Board members, the staff of Table Tennis England and to everyone who has put their trust and confidence in me as Chairman and our other two elected directors for the past four years.

We never lose sight of who we are here to serve – you, our members. We appreciate that today as much as we did the day you elected us. We work as part of a great team and are all proud to be associated with this great sport.

# Chief Executive's Statement



**Sara Sutcliffe**

It is my pleasure to be writing my fourth Chief Executive's report for the Annual Review. It has at times been a difficult year but also one of incredible achievements. From the outset I want to record my gratitude to Sandra Deaton and the Board, the staff and all the volunteers whose passion and dedication to table tennis day in and day out, up and down the country, drive the sport forward.

Throughout this Annual Review, notable achievements over the past 12 months are highlighted. Of course the performances at the Rio Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games were unforgettable.

The GB Para programme should be congratulated and we celebrate their success. We are pleased to play our part in their achievements by growing the England pathway for disability players; providing opportunities for our members to participate in events; and for raising the profile of Para Table Tennis. Congratulations to all the players and each and every coach, volunteer, support person and parent who has been part of the journey of success. The players are wonderful ambassadors for their sport and we are delighted to be associated with their ongoing achievements.

The success of our elite players in Rio and elsewhere was rewarded with recognition from UK Sport that table tennis was indeed a sport with future Olympic medal potential. In that context, the decision in December not to provide any funding for 'future potential' sports for the first time was hugely disappointing.

On the upside, in the same week the team attended the ITTF

“ More than half of our public funding, some £5m, will be directly supporting clubs, leagues and volunteers.

Star Awards where they were shortlisted in three categories following their outstanding performance at the 2016 World Championships. But effectively, this means that we need to self-fund most of our performance programme going forward, as we have done for the last four years.

A full six months was also spent working with Sport England on our bid for public funding for the 2017-21. Against a backdrop of messages about less funding being available we were pleased with the final outcome of just less than £9 million being awarded to Table Tennis England. This represented a 13% reduction on the previous cycle but was a considerably better award than several other sports achieved.

As an NGB that is heavily reliant on public funding, it did mean that we needed to take immediate steps to deal with the reduction and a restructure led to six staff posts being made redundant. My thanks to all the staff and particularly those that had to leave us for their patience in what was a long and uncertain process.

But again there is positive news in the funding award despite



**Paralympic champion Will Bayley takes on Billy Shilton at the PG Mutual National Championships – we are pleased to grow the England pathway for disability players, provide opportunities for our members to participate in events and raise the profile of Para Table Tennis**

# Chief Executive's Statement



Coaching at Waterside TTC – the terms of our Sport England grant mean we will increasingly be able to support the local level and secure and grow the future of the sport for the next generation

the headline amount being less. In a change to strategy from Sport England, NGBs are being funded to support the 'core market', in other words those people who already lead a healthy, regular sporting lifestyle. The Government recognises that retaining those people in sporting activity is just as important as getting new people into sport and that is what NGBs are well placed to do.

So as we look forward, more than half of our public funding, some £5m, will be directly supporting clubs, leagues and volunteers to become more sustainable and to deliver the right programmes to retain players as well as opening the doors to new opportunities and participants. A further £1.5m will be focused on talent development, our future superstars.

Table tennis is also one of the few sports which can help deliver on the wider 'physical activity' agenda too and so a separate award of £2m has been granted to allow the continuation of Ping! and Loop – programmes aimed at taking table tennis to where people are in their everyday lives such as workplaces and community centres.

We will use these projects to connect with under-represented groups in sport, including ethnic minorities and over-50s, and tackling topical issues such as mental health.

The future is indeed positive and exciting. It is rightly time to make sure we revisit the Mission 2025 strategy, and a snapshot of progress to date is included in this Review.

The last year has seen membership increase in every category, the doubling of licensed coaches, the launch of the Pride of Table Tennis Awards, the launch of our Young Ambassadors group, two club and volunteer conferences piloted, agreement with ESTTA on a merger which will enable greater support for schools development and competition, some promising Junior and Cadet performances on the international stage and the association in a solid financial position. But we need to grow our own income and we hope to be able to make some positive



announcements in that regard in the coming months.

I hope you enjoy reading the Annual Review and understanding in more detail the breadth of the work we do as the central function of the NGB. We know that for many of our members their involvement and interaction is very much at a local level and we will be able to support that increasingly but I hope you also appreciate the wider work that goes into securing and growing the future of the sport for the next generation.

Our door is always open in Milton Keynes should anyone wish to pop in and see us and challenge us to a game on our well used table!

# Operations

It has been another busy year in the Operations team with the embedding of the new financial system, the new CRM system going live providing clearer and more focused communication with our members, a new Board of Appeal being appointed and the new Code of Governance for Sport being implemented.

A vote of thanks is due to all the committees and individual advisers who form part of the Support and Advisory Network who have provided support and guidance throughout the year, a number of whom have provided reports below.

A special thanks must go to the outgoing members of the Board of Appeal, many of whom have served on the Board for many years. Les Smith, Chairman of the County Championships Committee, has resigned and we would like to thank him for his years of dedicated work, his passion will be missed. Diane Webb has also retired as Chairman and Organiser of English Leagues Cup Competitions and we thank her for her contribution in this role.

As part of the Sport England 2017-21 funding Table Tennis England were successful in securing funding for three new technology projects:

- A Club software platform
- Loop/PING! software platform
- Beginning-to-end Tournament Technology

A robust tendering process was completed to secure the best providers of this new technology, with an organisation called Sportlabs winning the first two projects and Sport80 winning the Tournament Technology Tender.

These projects are now moving forward and will begin to have an impact in 2017/18.

The new Code of Governance for Sport sets out the levels of transparency, accountability and financial integrity that will be required from those who ask for Government and National Lottery funding from April 2017.

The Code has three tiers and will apply to any organisation seeking funding from Sport England or UK Sport, regardless of size and sector, including national governing bodies of sport, clubs, charities and local authorities.

The Code is proportionate, expecting the highest standards of good governance from organisations requesting the largest public investments, including:

- Increased skills and diversity in decision-making, with a target of at least 30 per cent gender diversity on boards
- Greater transparency, for example publishing more information on the structure, strategy and financial position of the organisation
- Constitutional arrangements that give boards the prime role in decision-making.

Organisations seeking funding from Sport England and/or UK Sport will be assessed on how they meet the standards. It is a condition of Table Tennis England's award from Sport England that these standards are met and the organisation will be assessed against the Code and its standards on an annual basis. Any failure to comply with or meet the Code will result in a loss of funding. Thanks you to the Rules Committee who have been instrumental in working through the articles and ensuring that they meet the new Code.

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Company for 2016 was held at The Hallmark Hotel, Birmingham on Saturday 2nd July 2016, with 59 Company Members present or represented by proxies, as well as 32 others. There was one proposition regarding a £2 increase in affiliation fees for adults and £1 for juniors and cadets, which was passed.

There was one special resolution tabled by the Board proposing a change of wording in the articles replacing 'honorary life vice presidents' with 'honorary past presidents', which was passed.



The 2016 AGM in Birmingham

A further proposition tabled by Gary Whyman (Ormesby Table Tennis Club Secretary), proposing Table Tennis England adhere to its Equality Standard, was passed.

The Annual Report and Accounts were approved and the auditors were re-appointed.

## Board

The Board met in full four times during the year, which included a two-day meeting in December, with one extraordinary meeting being held requiring only Directors with certain skills to attend. All members attended meetings as follows: Elected Directors: Sandra Deaton (Chairman) – 4+1, Susie Hughes (Deputy Chairman) – 4+1, Keith Thomas (Treasurer) – 4+1; Appointed Directors: Simon Griew – 4+1, Phil Huggon – 2, Andrew Nixon – 3, Tom Purcell – 3+1, Kelly Skeggs – 4, Mike Smith – 4+1, Sara Sutcliffe – 4+1, Anna Lisa Tazartes – 4+1. The Board were pleased to welcome Jill Parker MBE to the December meeting whilst Senior Management Team and, as needed, other staff as well as external guests attended meetings.

Simon Griew, Phil Huggon and Anna Lisa Tazartes' Board tenures came to an end. Simon Griew has been re-appointed for a further term of office. The Board would like to thank Phil and Anna Lisa for their hard and dedicated work and wish them best for the future.

In its roles as policy-maker and monitoring the executive activities, Board topics included the Government Strategy for Sport and its impact on Mission 2025 and the bids to Sport England and UK Sport. The new Code of Governance for Sport, which was published in October and impacts all organisations which receive government funding, was also a key topic for discussion and decision.

The Board Standing Groups – Finance, Operations, Risk and Governance chaired by Keith Thomas, Honours chaired by Sandra Deaton and Network chaired by Mike Smith – all met during the year.



Phil Huggon and Anna Lisa Tazartes have left the Board





## **National Council**

National Council met four times during the year. It operated under procedures created by a National Council Working Group and approved by National Council. National Council agreed to vote for a Chair to sit on an annual basis and this year Tony Catt, National Councillor for Sussex, was appointed.

A regular set of reports were produced by the Chairman, Chief Executive, Heads of Operations, Talent & Performance, Development, Workforce and Commercial for each meeting which were followed by a discussion topic. Amongst the topics discussed were the new 'club cluster' model of delivery, commercial opportunities for the sport and attracting more women into the sport and administration.

Thoughts and recommendations by National Council were shared and discussed at each Board meeting with a follow up report presented at the following National Council meeting.



**Tony Catt chaired the National Council**

## **Support and Advisory Network**

The previous committee system was transformed into the Support and Advisory Network in July 2014. A total of 12 Committees continue to deliver national activities led by volunteers, e.g. Technical Officials and Calendar Working Party, while 18 Individual Advisers supported senior staff in their work remits, such as Procurement and Clubs.

In all, more than 100 volunteers apart from Board members were involved nationally in the Network.

The 10 Regional Committees will continue to work closely with staff and a more focused remit being agreed.

## **Chief Executive and Senior Management Team**

Sara Sutcliffe (Chief Executive) with her Senior Managers, Jonathan Bruck (Operations), Mark Taffler (Commercial), Simon Mills (Talent & Performance), Greg Yarnall (Workforce) and Emily St John (Development) led the professional staff, taking immediate responsibility for the executive functions of the

Association, working to implement policy decisions set by Board.

## **Rules Committee**

During the season a number of Regulations were reviewed and updated where appropriate and Regulation Change Propositions were drafted on behalf of the British League and County Championships Committees.

The Committee's main task was, however, the revision of the Company's Articles to meet the new requirements of Sport England in respect of governance. Compliance with these requirements is a prerequisite for receiving financial support and the challenge was to achieve this compliance without compromising the essential contribution made by volunteers to the successful running of the Association.

We believe that the resulting amendments, which will be put to the 2017 AGM, represent the best solution for all parties. We continued to provide advice on matters of rule interpretation to the Board, other committees and Affiliated Members.

## **Disciplinary Committee**

Table tennis is a competitive but friendly sport and disciplinary issues are relatively rare. The regulations prescribe penalty points for those red or yellow-carded, leading to suspension for repeated offences.

To safeguard young players, anyone convicted or cautioned for a criminal offence involving a person under 18 or placed on a statutory list barring or restricting them from working with under-18s is disaffiliated automatically. These provisions minimise the number of cases needing to be considered individually by the Disciplinary Committee, with a significant cost saving.

This year for the first time we are pleased to report that the Committee has not needed to meet.

## **Archives, Museums & Records Committee**

The Friday Photos section on the website continues to prove very popular and since its inception has had more than 60,000 hits averaging 654 visits each week, a record 2,200 hits was achieved on one occasion.

In January 2017 the weekly format changed to a monthly series of in-depth profiles – image and text based – on prominent players, and this has proved as popular as the weekly recognition series.

Research and information is provided for many different audiences, internal and external, including other Associations and the ITTF as well as for individuals, staff, club, league and counties on an almost weekly basis. Record-keeping is an ongoing process, added to which is the gradual building up of historical records. Articles have been written for various national and international programmes.

Material has been added to the Archives Store and special thanks go to Colin Hyland and Joyce Love for significant contributions as well as to everyone else who has helped to build up the sport's heritage.

A major project in converting more than 100 old video tapes on to disc has been completed by Eric Hall and special thanks goes to all Eric and all committee members, Diane Webb, Colin Clemett, Rob Sinclair and Ken Eliot for their work and support.

## **Board of Appeal**

No appeals were heard this year, although there are two currently ongoing.

**JONATHAN BRUCK (additional reports by Colin Clemett, Diane Webb, Estyn Williams)**

# Marketing and Communications



The 1080 Media production team at one of the European qualifiers

## Events coverage

2016/17 has been a big year for televised table tennis in this country, both in terms of live coverage and recorded highlights.

Working with our production partners 1080 Media, we provided three highlights programmes for Sky Sports – after the PG Mutual National Championships, England men’s European Championships qualifying match against Netherlands and the European play-off double-header (England men vs Slovakia and England women vs Spain).

This amounted to two-and-a-half hours of coverage on a major TV platform and has opened the door for discussions on future events.

Our live coverage was headlined by a groundbreaking rights partnership with SPORTbible, which generated international media interest due to its unique nature. The home European Championships Qualifying match against Greece was streamed live on the SPORTbible Facebook page, reaching 2.2 million viewers.

SPORTbible also hosted our live coverage of the home European qualifying play-off match between England men and Slovakia. All other home European qualifying matches were live-streamed, partnering with Team GB for the women’s fixture against Slovenia and our own channels for other ties.

We live streamed coverage from the PG Mutual National Championships on all three days on our YouTube channel, before live streaming switched to the SPORTbible Facebook page for the last three finals on the Sunday. The length of the SPORTbible stream was 2hr 50min and reached 617,000 viewers live. This compares with 120,000 who watched the same length of broadcast on ITV4 in 2016, and came at a significantly cheaper cost to Table Tennis England.

Additionally, we again live-streamed coverage from the age group National Championships, including offering viewers a choice of two tables at the Cadet & Junior Nationals, allowing us to live-stream boys’ and girls’ finals

simultaneously for the first time.

As well as these events, the Communications team also attended two National Cups, the Inter-Regional Championships, School Games, two ESTTA finals and selected Grand Prix events.

## Social media

Social media is an important tool for communication, especially with the younger generation. Our social media presence continues to grow and as of March 31, we had 11,778 followers on Twitter (up from 9,389 the previous year) and 15,488 Facebook likes (up from 10,901). A post sharing a BBC feature on Brighton TTC’s Down’s Syndrome coach Harry Fairchild became our best performing Facebook post, with a reach of 435,000 people, 1,400 shares, more than 7,000 reactions (likes etc) and 137,000 video views.

On YouTube, more than 1.15million minutes of footage were watched, up from 900,000 the previous year. Of this figure, around 400,000 minutes were watched live and the rest ‘on-demand’. We had just under 250,000 unique viewers (up from 226,000), spending an average time of 4min 37sec watching (up from 3min59sec). Live viewers stayed on average for 17min 56sec.

Our Instagram account, launched at the 2016 Nationals, is growing by about 100 followers a week and now stands at more than 5,500. We have also broken the 1,000 follower mark on LinkedIn, which we use to engage with the business community.

## Newsletters

Using the Dotmailer software, we sent a total of 1.4 million emails in the year to March 31 to 45,000 different recipients. These included our flagship Over The Net communication to all members, plus dedicated emails for schools, coaches, clubs and Loop customers.

Our open rate for emails was 35.7%, substantially above the industry standard figure of 25.4%. Our click rate was 4.4%, again above the standard of 3.2%.

PAUL STIMPSON



Liam Pitchford and Sam Walker in the BBC World studio

## Press and PR

High-profile coverage directly organised or assisted by Table Tennis England included:

- National media attended the announcement of the Team GB table tennis team for Rio 2016 in Milton Keynes
- Liam Pitchford and Sam Walker appeared on 5Live Breakfast, the Victoria Derbyshire show and BBC World, among others, during a pre-Olympics media tour of the BBC in Manchester
- Brighton TTC’s status as a Sanctuary Club was the subject of a major feature in The Guardian
- Table Tennis was played on the cobbles of Coronation Street as part of ITV’s I Am Team GB event
- Sky News reported from an England Hopes camp in Grantham, including a live segment
- SPORTbible deal covered by the likes of Sports Illustrated and The Times
- Radio 4 and Sky News reported on Bounce Alzheimer’s Therapy’s work at Birchwood Grange Nursing Home
- World Veteran champion Pam Butcher was interviewed on Women’s Hour and BBC South East
- Andrea Holt appeared on BBC Breakfast
- The England squad featured on Match of the Day as part of a film about Stoke City FC’s community programme
- Harry Fairchild, the world’s first table tennis coach with Down’s Syndrome, was featured on the BBC website



Table Tennis in Coronation Street at the I Am Team GB event



Clockwise from top left: PG Mutual sponsorship at the Nationals; Kelly Sibley models some of our fashion merchandise; Datto branding on a Ping! table; England players at the Shakespeare Martineau conference



“ By generating commercial revenue, Table Tennis England can be more flexible and reactive to help support areas of the sport that need it.

The Head of Commercial was appointed in May 2016. Introducing a role focused on generating incremental revenue was not only recommended by Sport England, but is also vital to the growth of the sport.

Most public money is ring-fenced against certain costs or projects. By generating commercial revenue, Table Tennis England can be more flexible and reactive to help support areas of the sport for which public money is not available.

A strategic review was undertaken in order to assess the saleable assets within Table Tennis England. It was agreed that Ping!, Loop and national and international competitions (with the help of TV and streaming broadcasts) represented the best opportunities for Table Tennis England to generate commercial revenue.

It was agreed that the best approach to finding a partner for these properties was to work with an agency which specialises in selling Rights Holder packages. We are working with Mongoose, who are in the process of pitching Ping! and Loop primarily to the market place.

There have been successes in driving incremental revenue, with PG Mutual signing an extension to their agreement with Table Tennis England in regards to the National Championships and we signed an agreement with law firm Shakespeare Martineau

off the back of their sponsorship of Team England for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

We signed a sponsorship agreement with Datto, an innovative technology company which provides Total Data Protection to businesses, covering the Ping! scheme for 2016. It was exciting that, firstly, this was a brand that came from outside the table tennis industry and, secondly, that a start-up tech company identified Ping! as the perfect vehicle to build its own brand awareness.

In response to the feedback from our members, we worked with our partners PG Mutual to introduce an exclusive Benefits Club, which allows our members to save on dozens of top brands, including names as diverse as Apple, Merlin Entertainments, Virgin Experience Days, Vision Express and the National Trust, with potentially hundreds of pounds of savings available every year. We continue to investigate more partnerships which can provide tangible benefits for our members.

During 2016, Table Tennis England also launched a range of ‘fashion’ merchandise which is contributing to our revenues.

As at June 2017, detailed negotiations are taking place with a number of companies and announcements should be forthcoming.

MARK TAFFLER

# Membership & Ranking

This season has seen another busy season for membership renewals and at the time of writing the total membership has reached 35,111. At March 31, the total was 34,571.

It has been a good year for membership with all player member figures up on previous years.

Between 2015/16 and 2016/17 there has been a marked increase in associate membership whilst small increases have also been seen in both Licensed and Player Membership.

However, whilst the small decline in player membership each year since 2013/14 has been halted we are still some 250 members behind the 2013/14 figures.

The investment planned over the next four years in the core of the sport, and the continued enhanced member benefits package, will encourage the continued growth of player members.

## Licensed Members

This year's figures and the three previous years do not include any home country players who have a licence.

This decision has been taken to understand the influence and impact our interventions may have on the targeted players within the demographics we are focusing on i.e. England.

Licence	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Cadet	716	716	687	699
Junior	410	403	404	411
Senior	551	534	533	584
Veteran	577	609	600	663
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>2,224</b>	<b>2,357</b>

Whilst the total number has increased, the Cadet and Junior licensed members remains reasonably static whilst the Seniors and Veterans show growth of 10%.

## Membership by Age

Player	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
Cadet	3,665	3,623	3,849	4,617
Junior	2,026	2,023	2,077	2,421
Senior	4,917	4,942	5,169	6,288
Veteran	17,642	18,102	18,849	21,245
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,250</b>	<b>28,690</b>	<b>29,944</b>	<b>34,571</b>

We continue to have a high proportion of males (88%) to females (12%) and older players (Senior and Veterans, 79%) to younger players (Juniors and Cadets, 21%).

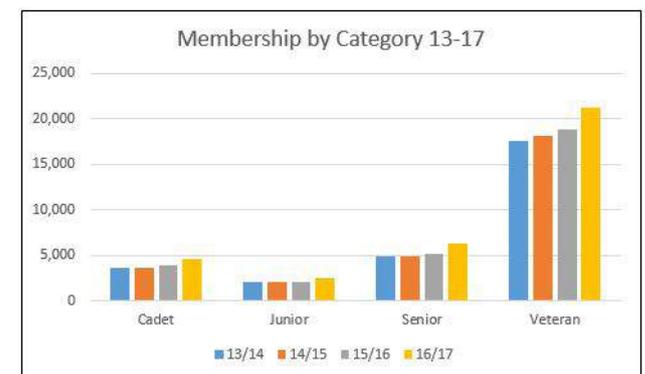
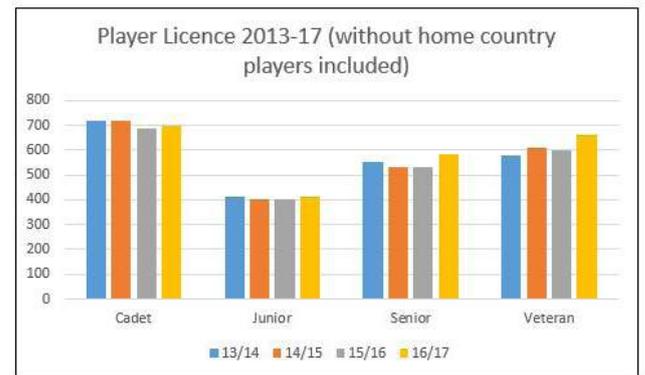
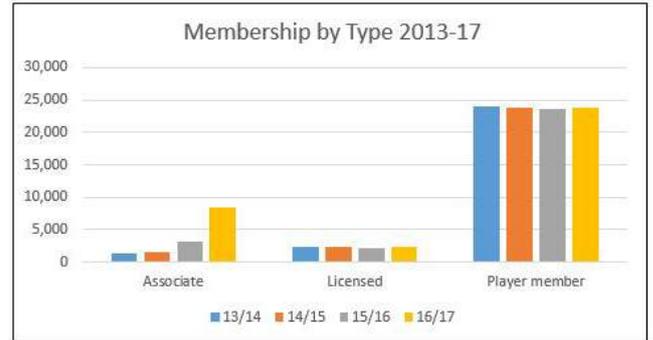
As we begin to collect more data and information and understand how and what will encourage more female and younger players to both participate and become members, we will begin to introduce interventions which we believe will impact this imbalance.

In respect of members affiliating, we now have more than 3,000 members who use Direct Debits and a further 14,862 who join online. This does still leave a large number of members who either join via a phone call directly to the office or through their club or league.

An increase in members who either join online or use direct debits would reduce the pressure on local leagues, clubs and Table Tennis England in processing applications.

## Ranking

The current ranking system is reaching its third year of successful operating, with the system constantly being reviewed and improved upon. The feedback received from the recent membership satisfaction survey has been positive overall, with encouraging feedback regarding the audit trail which is accessible



to every player/licensed member participating in ranked events. The rankings web page receives the second highest number of hits on our website, with only the homepage receiving more.

The addition of an 'Audit Log' for the 2016/17 season has given the Membership and Ranking team a better understanding of the algorithm used, enabling them to provide detailed explanations to members should they need to interpret their results.

The amount of results inputted during the 2016/17 season is currently at a total of 62,849, an increase of 4,543 from the 2015/16 season.

JUSTINE CAMPBELL

## Clubs

This year the number of Clubs affiliated to Table Tennis England has increased by 42% compared with 2015/16.

This is largely due to the launch of a new free club membership. The number of PremierClubs affiliated is 174, with an additional 64 clubs choosing to affiliate as free member clubs.

Following the transition to the Sport England Club Matters online Clubmark portal in November 2016, we have been selected as one of just a handful of NGBs to work with Club Matters on a bespoke offer of club support for table tennis. Three clubs have so far completed the online Clubmark accreditation and, at the time of writing, 11 more are working towards completion.

The satellite club programme continued to be a great success, with Table Tennis England exceeding the targets set by Sport England. Over the course of 2013-17, 159 satellite clubs have been developed, involving 9,264 young people. As a result of this success, Table Tennis England has been awarded an additional £140,000 satellite club funding for the next cycle.

We have also continued to work with Premier League For Sport. We have supported the delivery of further Satellite Clubs based out of Premier League football clubs and, to inspire and encourage girls to continue and bring their friends, we held a



□ The successful delivery of two pilot Club and Volunteer Conferences has highlighted the importance of bringing clubs and volunteers together to share ideas and best practice.  
 □ Conferences were held in Durham (December 2016, pictured) and Nottingham (February 2017), attracting

46 delegates and engaging 28 organisations.  
 □ The feedback was extremely positive, with an average Net Promoter Score of 50.  
 □ Table Tennis England will deliver four additional Conferences over the course of 2017/18.

girls only satellite festival.

We have also relaunched a regular Clubs newsletter. Four editions have been released this year, with an average open

rate of 43% and click through rate of 11%, both well above industry standards. Clubs newsletters are set to increase to every other month for 2017/18.

## Schools

During 2016/17, three major initiatives provided equipment at preferential rates or heavily subsidised – training for teachers, young leader awards and support linking to clubs, coaches and competition.

This resulted in support to:  
 87 primary and special schools through the Schools Grant Scheme.  
 83 schools through the schools offer (an equal number of primary and secondary schools, with three special schools).

87 schools in London and Essex kindly funded through the Jack Petchey Foundation project.

The 87 schools supported through the Jack Petchey Foundation project benefitted from 356 tables, teacher training, young leader training and inter-school competition, as well as 21 UKCC Level 1 bursaries. The project also supported 14 Youth Clubs with equipment and competition. The Foundation has kindly confirmed their kind support of £161,633 towards the 2017/18 project.

We have recruited 11 fantastic Young Ambassadors (aged 14-21 years). They have been advising staff on young people projects, developing social media plans and could be seen



**Our Young Ambassadors have been advising staff on projects involving young people**

volunteering and scoring at the National Championships. One of the Young Ambassadors, Hugo Ursell, was interviewed on BBC Radio Kent alongside The Minister of Sport, Tracey Crouch MP. The group has also elected Kin Fung Chan as its co-chair alongside our Volunteering Officer Lucy Budworth.

The new Teachers Award was launched in December with new,

**Continued on Page 12**

# Development

more practical content, and new resources. Following the course, online CPD is available to further educate and inspire teachers in their delivery.

Over the past 12 months, we have been in consultation with the English Schools Table Tennis Association about the alignment of schools table tennis across both organisations. At the ESTTA AGM, a merger between the two organisations was agreed and from September 1, schools competitions will fall under the umbrella of Table Tennis England. All ESTTA executive committee members will continue in their roles and be part of a new Table Tennis England schools committee.

## Facilities

During 2016/17 the club table grant scheme supported 19 clubs with 50% of the costs of new tables to increase the number of people participating in each club. More than £280,000 was awarded to the following club improvement and dedicated centre projects:

- Greenhouse, London
- Brighton Table Tennis Club
- Earls Colne Recreation Club, Colchester
- Meopham Table Tennis Club, Gravesend
- Ilfracombe Table Tennis Club, Devon
- Matravers School (West Wiltshire League), Trowbridge
- Bishop Auckland Table Tennis Club
- University of Nottingham

In addition to these projects a table tennis canopy pilot project was supported in Nottingham, a Housing Association pilot was launched and 349 venues including workplaces, clubhouses and community venues received support to introduce table tennis.

Going forward, all capital funding is being centrally managed and awarded by Sport England. In the future, Table Tennis England staff will therefore help signpost projects to the appropriate Sport England schemes as well as other funding opportunities, and will advise on and support bids.

## Disability

The Ability Club programme was relaunched in late 2016 with clubs signing a new Memorandum Of Understanding, agreeing to uphold Table Tennis England's best practices. We also launched a new Ability Club Newsletter in 2016, packed with tips, advice and news to assist Ability Clubs in remaining inclusive.

The club support scheme launched in summer 2016, inviting our PremierClubs to run inclusive projects targeting unrepresented groups, such as disability groups, women and girls, ethnic minorities and older people. We awarded grants totalling £15,232 to 22 PremierClubs to run their bespoke projects, to great success.

We have received examples of best practice, for example Bolton TTC's projects looked at different engagement methods and ran very successful sessions in their local Decathlon store,



Highbury TTC disability open day

encouraging people to come along to the club, with great results. All of our participant feedback indicated that they would love to try table tennis again after their six weekly sessions.

The disability table grant scheme continued its success from 2015/2016, helping place 34 tables in 19 organisations. Some high-profile organisations which took advantage of the subsidised offer included Age UK, Mencap, York St John University, Sport in Mind and Fusion Lifestyle.

A new pilot project was launched with Special Olympics and Mencap, working closely with four clubs to introduce a learning disability session into their programmes. This project is ongoing, with Table Tennis England providing free Learning Disability in Sport training and a small grant to get them started.

Working in conjunction with British Para Table Tennis, we have been able to refine the Para players' pathway, release a disability focused edition of the 'Winning Edge' coaching magazine and work together on projects with Wheelpower. The latest development with British Para Table Tennis includes a membership survey created on behalf of British Para Table Tennis by Table Tennis England to improve the Para athlete experience.

We've built new relationships with partners, including Mental Health Charity, Sport in Mind, who we look forward to working with in the future. Table Tennis England supported Sport in Mind to activate in a mental health hospital in Berkshire and subsequently six more hospitals across the south east have introduced table tennis.

## Loop

Loop is an initiative to inspire people to lead happier, healthier lives by bringing social table tennis into everyday spaces.

It offers workplaces, sports clubs, universities and community organisations the opportunity to purchase subsidised table packages containing everything required to introduce table tennis to their environment.

The packages include table, bats, balls, resources and training for Ping Pong Pioneers to help get new people playing. High-profile Loop at Work customers during 2016/17 included Allianz, BT, John Lewis and Pitney Bowes.

In late 2016/early 2017 we piloted the latest offer in the Loop family, 'Loop in the Community', this initiative went 'live' in May 2017 replacing the existing Recreational Table Grant Scheme and Disability Table Grant Scheme. This initiative is available to all community organisations such as: disability groups, religious groups, youth clubs, older people's groups and women's groups.

In 2017/18 we will be focusing on growing Loop at Work and Loop in the Community.

## Ping!

The popular street ping pong festival saw free table tennis tables populating the streets of a record 21 towns and cities during the summer of 2016, with an estimated 1.8million visits to the tables.



The Ping! 2016 launch in Bournemouth

## Priority Zone case study

□ During 2015-17, Table Tennis England supported priority zones. These were geographical areas selected and supported with the aim of significantly increasing regular participation and providing a complete menu of table tennis opportunity through schools, clubs, leagues, recreational sessions as well as for targeted groups.

□ During this time more than 16,500 people participated through priority zone projects. Activities included setting up 50+ sessions in leisure centres, social sessions at sports clubs and community venues, launching new community clubs, running workplace competitions, supporting new leagues and workforce training.

Exeter City FC

□ Exeter City FC Football in the Community were involved with the Ping! Exeter project at its inception in 2014 and in 2015 decided to set up a club for social players, plus three satellite clubs at local secondary schools, which has helped grow the number of people playing table tennis in Exeter significantly.

□ The football club started with one outdoor table in the car park, but have now moved into a large indoor space within the club and have six tables on the go each Monday night. The expansion is thanks to a Sport England small grants programme, co-written by Table Tennis England, which funded the additional equipment.

□ People attend the club with abilities ranging from beginners to league players, with the main emphasis on the session being social and fun, but still including a competitive element. The club is run as a drop-in evening, so there's no pressure for participants to have to turn up each week.

□ The sessions are run by playing various games to keep the practice fresh, from a ladder competition to a round-robin event with some professional coaching thrown in.

□ Everyone's aim is to improve their skills and the new robot funded by the Exeter Priority Zone work has really given the club the opportunity to improve the skills of those attending.

□ The project and sessions are led by Scott Walker from the Exeter City Football in the Community Trust. Scott was a keen table tennis enthusiast but had no previous coaching or competitive playing experience. His background as a football coach made him an excellent person to learn the technical skills necessary to coach table tennis. Scott is now a qualified coach, and his engaging and charismatic style means he also tutors activator and teachers award courses for Table Tennis England across the South West.

□ The enthusiasm of Scott and the other players at Exeter City has resulted in the club entering two new league teams into the Exeter and district league.

Ping! covered the width and breadth of England, from Newcastle to Cornwall, and Bristol to Chelmsford. New cities joining Ping! this year included Newcastle, Manchester, Barnsley, Stoke on Trent and Bournemouth, with the latter playing host to a very successful launch event held in the Lower Gardens.

Highlights from the 2016 project:

- Exeter Business Games – 100 participants from 25 local businesses taking part in Ping! competition
- Get Active Exeter – 12 new businesses, eight new schools and 11 new community groups.
- Community-hosted events – the Syrian community used the Leeds Corn Exchange Parlour for their local group.
- Over-85 world champion Pam Butcher taking on BBC South reporter in a television broadcast from the Bournemouth launch.

## National Table Tennis Day

The third annual National #Table Tennis Day featured well over 200 events up and down the country and even became a trending topic on Twitter, with almost 11 million page impressions generated on the social media channel.

The purpose of the day is to raise the profile of table tennis through a low-cost national campaign and call to action.

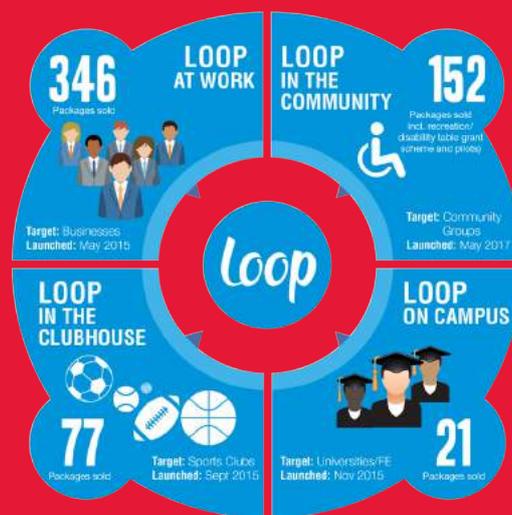
The main event held in Brighton was a big success, with special guests Olympians Kelly Sibley and Andrew Baggaley and the world's first table tennis coach with Down's Syndrome, Harry Fairchild.



Brighton Mayor Pete West

EMILY ST JOHN (additional reports by Claire Brockwell, Helen Dennett, Chris Brown and Julie Snowdon)

## Our social schemes at a glance



## PING! 2016 HEADLINES



# Competitions & Events

The 2016/17 season has been another busy one for the Competition and Events department which saw the exciting introduction of hosting of the European Championships Qualification matches.

Zach Ferris and Neil McGuigan both left the organisation to take on major events roles at England Hockey.

We continued our relationship with PG Mutual who have this season supported each of our National Championship events, many thanks to CEO Mike Perry and his team for their continued support.

## National Championships

The 2017 PG Mutual National Championships were held at the brand new David Ross Sports Village at the University of Nottingham and highlights were broadcast on Sky Sports Mix a total of six times.

The Live draw took place at Head Office in Milton Keynes and was streamed via YouTube and Facebook for everyone to watch. Tickets for the event were sold through the Ticket Factory and were a sellout for both Saturday and Sunday with Friday tickets just £5 on the door.

This year there were equal numbers of male and female athletes in the Singles, U21s and Doubles categories. Paul Drinkhall won his sixth Men's Singles title, Tin-Tin Ho her second Women's Singles and Commonwealth Games gold medallists Paul & Jo Drinkhall won the Mixed Doubles on their return to competition for the first time since Glasgow 2014.

Medway Park hosted the Cadet and Junior National Championships on 30th April and 1st May which saw 103 players competing for nine National titles. A consolation event was introduced for both the Junior and Cadet categories this year and the team event returned, which saw Burton Uxbridge crowned girls' champions and Blades the boys' champions.

The final National Championships of the season were the Under 10-13s, which took place in Kettering on 17th and 18th June. In the U10 & U11 age groups 24 players were invited and in the U12 & 13 age groups 48 players were invited.

## Inter-Regional Championships

Ten regions came together for the Inter-Regional Finals on 3rd and 4th June following the regional qualification rounds which took place in April. Six different regions had cause for celebration as the team events were played to a thrilling finish. The North West, South East, South West, East, East Midlands and West Midlands all won gold in Kettering in boys' and girls' competitions at Under-11, Under-13 and Cadet age groups.

## British League

The Senior British League implemented a new divisional structure this season which saw a Premier Division, a Championship Division, two National A Divisions, four National B Divisions and seven National C Divisions.

The Premier division played their matches on a home-and-away basis which allowed clubs to generate local interest and supporters to come and watch the matches in action. The majority of matches were also live-streamed, a development in this competition which has been very well received. Drumchapel emerged victorious this year, taking the top place in the standings with Ormesby finishing second and Fusion third.

The Veterans' British League merged with Veterans' National League at the Derby Arena, and with 76 teams playing on 38 tables there was a great atmosphere. Alan Duke and Brenda Stephenson stepped down from their roles as Referee and Deputy Referee after the final weekend having been involved in the competition for 25 years!

Junior British League returned to Derby this season and saw some brilliant matches taking place. London Academy emerged



victorious in the boys' event whilst Ellenborough were crowned champions in the girls' event.

The University of Nottingham and the University of Huddersfield played host to Women's British League this year. YHL won the Premier Division whilst the Solihull Cup, awarded to someone who has enhanced the WBL, and voted for by the teams, was won by Emma Rose of Thorntons.

## Grand Prix

This season the Grand Prix series visited Liverpool, Crawley, Tipton, Blackpool, Cleveland, Bath, Nottingham and London. Satellites were held in Cardiff, Burgess Hill and Jersey.

The final GP of the series was once again held in London and attracted a total of 244 entries. Chris Doran won his third overall GP title and Karina Le Fevre her fourth, while two players – Rory Scott and Adam Ridley – were awarded certificates for attending all eight main Grand Prix events.

## National Cadet League & National Junior League

190 teams took part in the National Junior League this season across 15 venues whilst a staggering 254 teams (the highest ever number to take part in the event) entered the National Cadet League and played across 17 venues.

A huge thanks must be given to Mike Atkinson for his hard work in organising the venues and the fantastic achievement of allowing as many young people to take part as possible.

## English League Cup Competition

Diane Webb organised another great year of ELCC competition which saw the finals weekend take place on 17th and 18th June at Westfield TTC. Unfortunately, Diane has decided to step down



Work is now well under way with organising the Europe Youth Top 10 event which takes place from 8-10th September in Worcester. Forty of the best young players in Europe will compete in four round-robin competitions – Junior Boys, Junior Girls, Cadet Boys and Cadet Girls – to decide the champions.

As the host nation, England are entitled to have a player in each category so we hope to see plenty of table tennis fans in Worcester supporting our players in action.



Left: The victorious South East team at the School Games; Above: Zach Ferris; Right: The Finals Day arena at the PG Mutual Nationals



## See pages 22-35 for competition results

from her involvement following 10 years' service as Chairman, thanks to Diane for all her hard work with this fantastic event.

### **Jack Petchey**

The Jack Petchey team and individual events were once again staged at the University of East London in January and June respectively. Sir Jack Petchey himself was on hand to personally congratulate players and both events were a resounding success.

A total of 188 youngsters representing 41 teams played across four age groups at the team event whilst the individual event involved more than 90 players from schools in London and Essex and saw eight competition victors from eight different schools.

### **National Cups**

The University of Central Lancashire hosted the Cadet & U12 National Cup in April which saw 40 players battle it out to be crowned champion of the round-robin format. Competitors played on Taraflex flooring for the first time and it was Ethan Walsh, Charlotte Bardsley, Naphong Boonyaprapa and Sophie Chiang who were the champions. The Junior National Cup took place at Milton Keynes TTC and saw Tom Jarvis and Denise Payet both maintain unbeaten records to finish on top.

### **County Championships**

A total of 237 teams were represented across five age groups in the County Championships in 2016/17. An enormous thanks to Les Smith and his committee for their hard work and diligence in organising these events. At the end of this season Les (Chairman and Secretary) will be stepping down from his roles and deserves a tremendous vote of thanks for his outstanding contribution to this event over the years, he will be sorely missed.

### **Tournaments Committee**

This season the number of tournaments administered by Tournaments Committee has exceeded 120. This is the highest number since Steve Welch became Chairman. The indication is that the number of players entering tournaments has increased, however there are several tournaments still to run this season.

The number of warnings issued is down against last year and so far, no player has been sanctioned for having 5 warnings in 12 months. Many thanks to Steve Welch and his committee who have worked extremely hard on supporting tournament organisers and administering a fantastic amount of events.

### **Calendar Working Party**

With more than 250 competitions in the events calendar, the

Calendar Working Party have their work cut out to avoid clashes. Harvey Webb and the committee have once again done a sterling job of fitting in a vast number of events this season providing lots of opportunities for people to get involved in the sport.

Many thanks to the CWP committee, it is not an easy task and one that should never be underestimated!

### **School Games**

Loughborough University hosted the 2016 School Games in September which involved 82 table tennis athletes from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

The four-day multi-sport event involved both team and individual events covering boys, girls and disability categories.

The winning boys' team were England Midlands, the top girls' team were England South East and the disability gold went to England South East. The overall winners were England South East.

### **European Championship Qualification**

We hosted four ECQ matches, two for the England Men's team and two for England Women's team. The two men's matches, against Greece and Netherlands, were both at the Fenton Manor Sports Complex in Stoke-on-Trent. The women's match against Slovenia was at Medway Park and their match against Germany was at the Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre in Preston.

Matches have involved one show court with seating, creating an arena feel to the event involving a variety of different elements from cheerleaders to player mascots and presenting bespoke pottery keepsakes for the visiting team. These events have allowed us to list more ticketed events on the Ticket Factory, showcasing our top players on home soil.

Due to both teams finishing in second position in their group they were required to compete in home-and-away Play-off matches, with the Men playing Slovakia and the Women playing Spain. Both home matches were played two days after the Cadet & U12 National Cup at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston over two tables. The matches took place at the same time with the men's match being live-streamed by the Sport Bible and the women's match on our YouTube channel.

### **Online tournament project**

We are currently working on introducing an enhanced online tournament system which will have a number of features, including allowing players to enter and pay for their competitions and events online, producing draws and scoresheets for the Referees and allowing results to feed into the ranking lists.

This is an exciting piece of work that will vastly improve processes for not only players but organisers too. We are hopeful that changes will be seen early in the 2017/18 season.

AMANDA ROBINSON

# Workforce

## Coach Education

This year we have seen 27 Level 1 courses and six Level 2 courses delivered, with 349 coaches attending, up 10% on last year.

We are very excited about the new Level 3 course, which launched in September 2016 in partnership with the University of Gloucestershire, with 12 coaches on the first intake. This course has included delivery from expert lecturers at the University and our National Performance coaches.

We have made some small changes to the coaching pathway to ensure that all coaches, no matter what level they are coaching at, can progress through the coaching pathway. It will be about the level of their coaching, not the level of who they are coaching.

A total of 25 coach workshops were also delivered with more than 350 coaches attending across the country, in addition to over 75 coaches completing our new online video analysis CPD.

## Coach Licence

This year has seen record numbers of licensed coaches, with 600 coaches now having purchased their licence, an increase of more than 50% in the past 12 months.

The licence scheme helps to identify those coaches who have the necessary training and qualifications in place and ensures that coaches keep their safeguarding and DBS credentials up to date, ensuring we make the sport as safe as possible for all people coming into the sport.

We have published the Licensed coach list on the website too, to encourage use of Licensed coaches.

## Schools Education

In November 2016 we launched a new Teachers' Award course, which has so far engaged more than 200 teachers, who will be able to go on and deliver more table tennis in their schools. We have also improved the delivery and organisation of the courses, helping us to ensure that we support as many young people and schools as possible to deliver table tennis.

## Coach Mentoring Scheme

This year has seen us launch a coach mentoring scheme, which had over 20 applicants come forward. Four coaches were selected to be mentored throughout the season by some of our TDC and national coaches, including attending England squad training and learning about how the national coaches work with the current squads.

## Female coach scholarships

To raise the profile and increase the number of female coaches in the sport, we launched our female coach scholarships, which helped us to support 31 females to become coaches or progress to Level 2 status and will go on to support more females staying in and coming into the sport.

### ***Praise for the Teachers' Award course***

***"It prepared me for teaching BTEC Unit Individual and Team Sports"***

***"The greatest benefit from the course was the technical aspects - coaching points to pass on to students"***

***"Recapping skills and knowing what I am teaching is correct"***

***"Great course, fully enjoyed"***



**Volunteers are briefed during an event**



**We are raising the profile and number of female coaches**

## Technical Officials

This year has seen the introduction of a new Officiating Pathway, ensuring officiating is easy to understand and move into.

We have also undertaken significant work to develop and re-launch the Tournament Organiser course, which has had a six-year absence, as well as a new Level 1 (previously CU) Umpires course, where courses will be running from July 2017.

We have had 30 new Tournament Organisers qualify from four courses this year and 22 umpires attend a County Umpire course. Umpire courses have been on hold but we hope to increase the number of officials at all levels and areas over the next 12 months.

## Volunteering

This year we launched our newly designed volunteer awards, which were named the Pride of Table Tennis Awards. The aim of these awards was to create a stronger volunteer recognition programme nationally, recognising more volunteers, as well as helping clubs and leagues to recognise their own volunteers at a local level.

This proved extremely successful with 226 nominations in total and included awards being presented at regional and national level, with 60 Club Volunteers of the Year also being presented at local level. A list of the winners for 2016 can be seen on page 32.

This year we have also developed the Volunteer Journey to help clubs and leagues, and ourselves nationally, to recruit, support and recognise volunteers throughout their volunteering in table tennis. This will be fully launched in August 2017 in time for the new season.

We also became only the third NGB to create an #iwill pledge with our commitment to engage more young people in volunteering and social action at all levels of our sport. We have started to make progress towards these objectives and will continue to do so over the next 12 months.

**GREG YARNALL**

This has been another significant year in the continual growth and improvement of the talent and performance pathway.

There are of course some fantastic performances to highlight and celebrate from across the pathway but as importantly there have been some very exciting initiatives and programme developments.

## Staffing

This year has seen a changing of roles within the team as Head Coach Nick Jarvis stepped down from his role at the end of July. Nick has been responsible for much of the great progress and player performances over the past few years, especially among the Cadet and Junior age groups. He has left the sport in a much better place than he found it when he took on the role and he leaves with the enormous thanks and plaudits from his colleagues in the Talent & Performance Team.

Alan Cooke has stepped in as the new Head Coach and has already played a key role in the delivery of the biggest performances of the last three decades in the sport and will now be applying his expertise to the whole programme whilst continuing to support the senior players' programmes. Alan's world-renowned experience, knowledge and commitment to English talent in table tennis will continue to build on the legacy that his predecessor leaves behind as he expands his remit.

Matthew Stanforth has stepped in to run the England Youth Squad and taken over the responsibility for delivery of the national Mini Cadet, Cadet and Junior programmes and projects.

The introduction last summer of Marcus Gustafson to the staff team has enabled much greater support to be delivered to the Talent Development Centre network and ensure that this key programme continues to grow.

Marcus has fitted in very well within the Talent & Performance Team and even in his short time in post has made a meaningful contribution, by expanding the Talent Development Centre network to include two new TDCs, developing the intra Talent Development Centre programme, hosting joint training camps and most importantly the addition of the international competition programme to the TDC players and coaches.

Matjaz Sercer has also joined the National Coaching Team and is responsible for the newly created National Talent Academy hosted by Ackworth School. More on this project later, but it is safe to say that Matjaz's passion, commitment and expertise in the development of elite table tennis players and has been a great addition to the team.

Hong Hong Peebles and Jane Barella left the coaching team this year.

## Performances

### Mini Cadets & younger

Jamie Liu finished a very positive sixth at the ITTF Hopes Challenge in Qatar in June 2016, earning selection to the ITTF Hopes and EuroTalents programmes.

Jamie Liu and Josh Weatherby were selected to the EuroTalents programme.

### Cadets, Juniors & U21

Fantastic performances at the EYC 2016 were headlined by Tin-Tin Ho winning two medals, silver in mixed doubles and bronze in the junior girls' singles. The cadet girls team finished fifth, demonstrating the progress that Denise, Charlotte and Mollie have made in the previous year. Some disappointing results in the cadet boys meant they finished 22nd, however both junior teams finished 17th, earning promotion back to the championship division. Tom Jarvis did not play in the singles event as his selection to the Rio 2016 Olympic Team required him to attend a

Continued on Page 18



Coaching ranks: Nick Jarvis (top) stepped down as Head Coach, while Alan Cooke (above) took up the reins. Matjaz Sercer (below) and Marcus Gustafson (bottom) joined the team



# Talent & Performance



Above: Simon Mills, Sam Walker, Paul Drinkhall and Alan Cooke at the ITTF Star Awards ceremony. Below: David McBeath and Sam Walker on their way to the last 16 of the World Championships. Bottom: The England squad with the Slovak Junior Open team trophy.



preparation camp and to miss this event.

Tin-Tin Ho finished sixth in the European Youth Top 10.

Tom Jarvis led the results at the inaugural European U21 Championships, reaching the quarter-finals of the singles and the men's doubles (with Helshan Weerasinghe). Tin-Tin Ho lost in the last 16. Tin-Tin beat Nina Mittelham, the No 1 seed, during the competition.

The Cadet 6 Nations saw Denise Payet reach the quarter-final and bronze medals for both girls' and boys' teams.

Luke Savill and the England Junior Boys' Team won the Slovak Junior Open Championships singles and team events.

## Senior

The obvious highlight of the 2016/17 year was the success of the British Olympic Table Tennis team, delivering the best ever Olympic performances. Paul Drinkhall led the way, reaching the last 16 to equal the best ever Men's Singles result, beating Gao Ning and Andrej Gacina en route. Liam Pitchford lost in the last 32 to Youngsik Jeoung.

But the stand out performance was in the Men's Team, where the players repeated their World Championship quarter-final result by beating France 3-2. This match set an Olympic record as the longest match (at the time) and the first to go to 3-2 in each individual match as well as in the overall score. Sam Walker saved three consecutive match points to beat world No 17, Simon Gauzy. The team then faced the quarter-final against China, losing 3-0 but winning one set in each match.

Following the Olympic Games, the teams took part in the European Team Championships qualifiers, where some mixed performances saw both teams finishing second in their group. The women beat Slovenia, who were seeded second, both home and away to reach the play-offs and the men, having beaten Greece at home, could not repeat the success away and also had to compete in the play-offs. The women lost both matches to Spain and the men lost at home (1-3) and won away (3-2), losing on countback. This means both are in the Challenge Division of the Championships in September.

The European Championships were held in Budapest. Liam Pitchford & Paul Drinkhall reached the last 32 of the singles, losing to the Austrian pair Fegerl and Gardos, and Sam Walker and Tin-Tin Ho reached the last 64 of their respective singles. Kelly Sibley had to withdraw at the last minute with injury. The best result of the championship was the mixed doubles, where Tin-Tin Ho and Liam Pitchford reached the quarter-finals, losing to the third seeds after a very promising series of performances.

## Senior Opens

Liam Pitchford reached the quarter-final of the Swedish Open, David McBeath reached the last 32 with career-high wins against WR24 and WR105 players.

Paul Drinkhall reached the quarter-final of the Indian Open, Sam Walker reached the last 32.

World Championships 2017: Sam Walker and David McBeath reached last 16 in men's doubles, Liam Pitchford and Sam Walker the last 64 and Paul Drinkhall the last 32 of men's singles.

## World Ranking

Career highs in 2016/17 for Paul Drinkhall (32); Liam Pitchford (39); Sam Walker (110); David McBeath (221); Tin-Tin Ho (176) and Charlotte Bardsley (Cadet, 21).

## ITTF Star Awards

England received its first ever ITTF Star Awards nominations in 2016 for Rising Star (England Men's Team); Coach of the Year (Alan Cooke); and Point of the Year (Sam Walker).

## Talent Development Centres

The Talent Development Centre programme further expanded



**An England Youth Squad training camp at the University of Nottingham**

during 2016/17, welcoming Halton Table Tennis Club and Ackworth School to the fold. The Talent Development Centre support, primarily by Marcus Gustafson, has delivered a much greater degree of integration across the network, including a Talent Development Centre training camp in Nottingham in December 2016 and two international competitions in Sweden and Croatia, as well as providing opportunities to continue to integrate Para players in the network, supporting the Para TT pathway. Again, thanks must go to the huge volume of volunteers who support each Talent Development Centre, without whom they would not operate.

In the 2017-21 cycle a refreshing of the Talent Development Centre programme will see the creation of two tiers of Talent Development Centre, with slight different levels of support across each and the introduction of a performance club programme. Future Talent Development Centres will have to have been a performance club first.

## **England Youth Squad & National Talent Academy**

The England Youth Squad programme has continued to build in 2016/17 with the introduction of the new National Talent Academy in conjunction with Ackworth School. This has provided the opportunity for 6-10 players to attend a full-time academic and table tennis programme. The programme is supported by Matjaz Sercer and led by Matthew Stanforth. Four players attending the National Talent Academy have been awarded a Backing the Best scholarship by Sport England to support them with funding.

Seventeen players are also supported by Sports Aid and the Ivor Montagu fund to provide funding for their England Youth Squad programme. The AASE (Athlete Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence) is also continuing to provide education and funding to players over 16 in the England Youth Squad.

Our partner Sport 981 is continuing to provide strength and conditioning support to the players within the England Youth Squad and an improvement in physical preparation is becoming increasingly evident.

**The learning from the Olympic Games identified four areas of development required by the performance pathway – accidental intensity, aerobic fitness, aggressive play and bulletproof.**

## **Future Developments**

Following a series of reviews after the Olympic Games and the UK Sport funding application and outcomes, the objectives and trademarks of the performance programme were revised and clarified.

The learning from the Olympic Games identified four areas of development required by the performance pathway and these have been captured and shared across the Talent Development Centre network, the new level three and the coaches on the Table Tennis England coach mentoring programme. These four areas were accidental intensity, aerobic fitness, aggressive play and bulletproof.

These have all been incorporated in to the new trademarks of the performance programme which have been updated to be:

**English players are known for having excellent ability to**

- Attack (for defensive players this could mean having the ability to use topspin when required and have very accurate and challenging placement/spin);
- Defend (for attacking players this could mean contain or counter-attack);
- Serve and receive;
- All of the above off both wings

**English teams and players are known for being resilient and staying in the moment to**

- Play every point to the end;
- Play every game to the end;
- Play every match to the end;
- Come back at you after losing a point (reset);
- Come back at you after losing a game (reset);
- Come back at you after losing a match (reset);
- Find a way in any situation and against any opponent.

**English teams and players are known for being the best conditioned players in the hall.**

These factors will be increasingly included in the coach education system and players selection to England Youth Squad and other England Team and Squads to ensure that they are cornerstones of the player pathway and thus become realised.

**SIMON MILLS**

# Notable achievements



Luke Savill celebrates winning the Slovak Junior Open



Sue Gilroy and Megan Shackleton on the podium at the Para World Team Championships



Table Tennis England Head of Operations Jonathan Bruck with the silver award at the Sport Business Awards; below: BBC Unsung Hero Sylvia Worth



- Table Tennis England was shortlisted for NGB of the year in the Sports Industry Awards 2017.

- Table Tennis England received a silver medal in the Sport Innovation Award category at the Sport Business Awards 2017, for its groundbreaking live streaming partnership with SPORTbible.

- Paralympic champions Will Bayley and Rob Davies were made MBEs in the New Year Honours.

- Over-85 world champion Pam Butcher was made an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

- Sandra Deaton was elected as a European representative to the ITTF Board of Directors.

- Andy Bray of Haworth Hawks TTC won a Torch Trophy Award, which recognises the outstanding achievements of volunteers in sport.

- Fred Perry and Diane Rowe were inducted into the European Hall of Fame.

- Will Bayley became a Team England Athlete Ambassador for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

- Harry Jutle gained Blue Badge status from the ITTF.

- Sylvia Worth was named BBC Get Inspired Unsung Hero for East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, while Viv Woodcock-Downey won the same award for the South East.

### Performance - Senior

- For Olympic and Paralympic recognition, see pages 24-25.

- Sam Walker was nominated for the ITTF Star Point Award.

- Alan Cooke was nominated for the ITTF Star Coach Award.

- Paul Drinkhall, Liam Pitchford and Sam Walker were nominated in the ITTF Breakthrough Star Award.

- Sam Walker & David McBeath reached the last 16 of the Men's Doubles at the World Championships.

- Liam Pitchford & Tin-Tin Ho reached the mixed doubles quarter-finals at the European Championships.

- David McBeath beat world No 24 Maharu Yoshimura at the Swedish Open.

- Liam Pitchford reached the Champions League quarter-finals with Hennebont.

### Performance - Para

- Will Bayley's Paralympic gold in Rio was recognised by the Sports Journalists' Association, who presented him with the Bill McGowran Award for outstanding achievement in Paralympic sport by a man.

- At the Para World Team Championships there were bronze medals for Tom Matthews & Paul Davies (class 1); Sue Gilroy & Megan Shackleton (women's class 4-5); Paul Karabardak, David Wetherill & Martin Perry (class 6).

- At the PTT Slovenia Open, Rob Davies, Aaron McKibbin and Ashley Facey Thompson all took silver in their respective classes and there were bronze medals for Will Bayley, Jack Hunter-Spivey and David Wetherill; in the team events, Paul Davies and Tom Matthews took silver and there were bronze medals for McKibbin and Ross Wilson, Bayley and Billy Shilton, Sue Gilroy and Megan Shackleton and Hunter-Spivey with his Norwegian partner Tommy Urhaug.

- At the PTT Bayreuth Open in Germany, Will Bayley and Ross Wilson

## Notable achievements



**Andy Bray of Haworth Hawks receives his Torch Trophy Award from HRH the Earl of Wessex**

won singles golds and Martin Perry won singles bronze. In the team events, Paul Davies, Rob Davies and Tom Matthews won gold; Aaron McKibbin and Ross Wilson and Megan Shackleton and Russia's Aleksandra Vasileva took silver; Paul Karabardak, Martin Perry and David Wetherill, Will Bayley and Billy Shilton and Ashley Facey Thompson and Germany's Yannick Ruddenklau won bronze.

- Pathway squad players Dan Bullen and Craig Allen took silver in their respective classes at the PTT Spanish Junior Tournament.

- At the PTT Spanish Open Ciutat del Prat, Alex Bland and Lee Wilkinson took team gold as well as both winning bronze in the singles. Dan Bullen won singles silver, Lucie Bouron won team silver with Sweden's Anna-carin Ahlquist and Marc Bonnar took team bronze alongside Argentinian partner Guillermo Bustamante Sierra.

### Performance - Junior and Cadet

- Luke Savill won the Slovak Junior Open Boys' Singles gold medal.

- The England squad of Tom Jarvis, Luke Savill, Matt Leete and Josh Bennett won the team gold at the Slovak Junior Open.

- Tom Jarvis and Tin-Tin Ho competed at the World Junior Championships.

- Tom Jarvis reached the men's singles quarter-finals of the European Under-21 Championships; Jarvis and Helshan Weerasinghe reached the doubles quarter-finals; Tin-Tin Ho reached last 16 of the women's singles.

- Denise Payet won Junior Girls' Team silver at the Belgium Junior & Cadet Open; Charlotte Bardsley won Cadet Girls' Team bronze and Cadet Girls' Doubles bronze.

- At the Opatija Milenij Open, there was double gold for Mollie Patterson, gold for Ruby Chan, Silver for Jamie Liu, bronze for Jasmin Wong and Amirul Hussain.

- National Youth Coach Matt Stanforth won a place on the 2017 ITTF Mentorship Programme.

- England boys' squad of Joe Cope, Jamie Liu, Ethan Walsh and Josh Weatherby won the gold medal at the Cadet 6 Nations, while the girls' squad of Ruby Chan, Megan Gidney, Mollie Patterson, Darcie Proud and Jasmin Wong won the bronze medal.

- Jasmin Wong won individual bronze at the Cadet 6 Nations.

### > The following have represented England

<b>Senior</b>	Denise Payet
Paul Drinkhall	Luke Savill
Tin-Tin Ho	<b>Cadet</b>
Karina Le Fevre	Charlotte Bardsley
David McBeath	Ruby Chan
Denise Payet	Joe Cope
Liam Pitchford	Megan Gidney
Kelly Sibley	Amirul Hussain
Maria Tsapsinos	Jamie Liu
Sam Walker	Mollie Patterson
<b>Junior</b>	Denise Payet
Josh Bennett	Darcie Proud
Tin-Tin Ho	Ethan Walsh
Tom Jarvis	Josh Weatherby
Matt Leete	Jasmin Wong



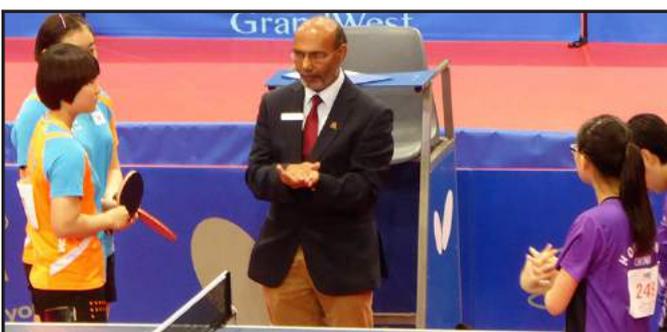
**Denise Payet**

### > The following have competed at ITTF tournaments

<b>Senior</b>	Shayan Siraj
Andrew Baggaley	Olly Tyndall
Paul Drinkhall	<b>Cadet</b>
Tom Jarvis	Reece Chamdal
Sam Mabey	Ruby Chan
David McBeath	Sam Chesterman
Mike O'Driscoll	Joe Cope
Liam Pitchford	Megan Gidney
Luke Savill	Amirul Hussain
Sam Walker	Gemma Kerr
Helshan Weerasinghe	Mollie Patterson
<b>Junior</b>	Darcie Proud
Charlotte Bardsley	Hannah Ward
Josh Bennett	Kieran Wardell
Ruby Chan	<b>Mini</b>
Joe Clark	Ruby Chan
Tiana Dennison	Sophie Chiang
Gauri Duhan	Bertie Kelly
Megan Gidney	Jamie Liu
James Hobson	Amy Marriott
Samuel Kwan	Anaya Patel
Matt Leete	Louis Price
Denise Payet	Adam Szabo
Luke Savill	

### > The following officials were selected for foreign events

<b>Umpires</b>	Lynda Reid
Nico Caltabiano	Joshua Reynolds
David Cochrane	Derek Sidaway
Neil Curtis	Lester Smith
David Edwards	Russell Sutcliffe
David Gough	Alan Thomas
Lyndon Griffiths	<b>Referees</b>
Harry Jutle	Stuart Sherlock
Alex Mercer	Karen Tonge MBE
Tom Purcell	Steve Welch



**Umpire Harry Jutle gained ITTF Blue Badge status**

# PG Mutual National Championships



Clockwise from top left: Paul & Joanna Drinkhall; Denise Payet; Danny Reed; Kim Daybell takes on Liam Pitchford; Tin-Tin Ho receives the Fair Play Award from Diane Sibley (nee Rowe) and Ebby Scholer and celebrates doubles victory with Maria Tsaptsinos; Liam McTiernan; U21 champion Tom Jarvis with Adam Jepson with coach Denis Neale; Dan Proud; Dan Bullen plays Jack Hunter-Spivey to the crowd; Kelly Sibley with mascot



**Men's Singles:** Paul Drinkhall bt Sam Walker 4-2 (9-11, 11-6, 9-11, 11-7, 11-7, 11-8)

**Women's Singles:** Tin-Tin Ho bt Kelly Sibley 4-1 (12-10, 6-11, 12-10, 11-5, 11-4)

**Men's Doubles:** Paul Drinkhall & Liam Pitchford bt Chris Doran & Mike O'Driscoll 3-0 (11-6, 14-12, 12-10)

**Women's Doubles:** Tin-Tin Ho & Maria Tsaptsinos bt Kelly Sibley & Jo Drinkhall 3-0 (11-6, 11-9, 11-8)

**Mixed Doubles:** Paul & Jo Drinkhall bt Tin-Tin Ho & Sam Walker 3-0 (12-10, 14-12, 11-6)

**Under-21 Men's Singles:** Tom Jarvis bt Helshan Weerasinghe 4-3 (11-8, 8-11, 12-10, 8-11, 6-11, 11-5, 11-8)

**Under-21 Women's Singles:** Tin-Tin Ho bt Maria Tsaptsinos 4-1 (12-10, 9-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-8)

**Men's Class 3-5 winner:** Jack Hunter-Spivey

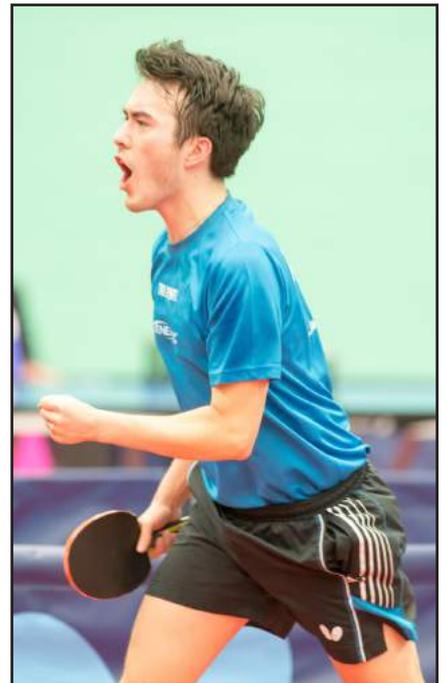
**Men's Class 6-8 winner:** Aaron McKibbin

**Men's Class 9-10 winner:** Kim Daybell

# PG Mutual National Championships



im  
n Ho  
e  
brates  
rvis;  
Darcie  
ivey;







## Rio roll-call

### Olympics

Paul Drinkhall  
Liam Pitchford  
Sam Walker

Stuart Sherlock (referee)

### Paralympics

Will Bayley  
Jane Campbell  
Rob Davies  
Paul Davies  
Kim Daybell  
Ashley Facey Thompson

Sue Gilroy  
Sara Head  
Jack Hunter-Spivey  
Paul Karabardak  
Aaron McKibbin  
David Wetherill  
Ross Wilson



Rio 2016 was a memorable time for both Team GB and Paralympics GB.

At the Olympics, the Team GB trio delivered a best-ever set of results, starting with Paul Drinkhall (left) becoming the first Brit to reach the singles last 16 since 1992. Liam Pitchford (far left) reached the last 32.

The team got through to the quarter-finals thanks to a dramatic 3-2 victory over France, with every match going to a decider, ending in Sam Walker saving three match points in his defeat

of world No 17 Simon Gauzy (top left and, inset, celebrating with team-mates and coach Alan Cooke). GB were beaten by all-conquering China in the quarter-finals.

Off court, Stuart Sherlock (right) was referee of the tournament.

At the Paralympics, there were gold medals for Will Bayley (above right, celebrating with performance director Gorazd Vecko) and Rob Davies (below) and team bronze for Bayley, Aaron McKibbin and Ross Wilson (above, left to right).



# European Championships Qualifying ties



England men and women both qualified for the second-tier Challenge Division for the European Championships, which will be held in Luxembourg in September 2017, following the qualifying campaign.

The men were drawn against Greece and Netherlands, beating the former 3-2 at home and losing 3-0 away and recording two 3-0 wins over the latter.

It meant they finished second in the group behind Greece and therefore required a play-off against Slovakia to determine whether they would qualify in the top Championship Division or the second level Challenge Division.

A 3-1 home defeat in the first leg gave England a lot to do and when Slovakia went 2-1 ahead in the return leg, it meant England could not come back - although they did win 3-2 on the night.

England women also finished second in their group, thanks to two 3-2 victories over Slovenia, both countries having lost their two ties against group winners Germany.

They were drawn to play Spain in the play-off and were beaten 3-0 both at home and away.

The home qualifiers were played at Fenton Manor Sports Complex in Stoke-on-Trent, Medway Park in Gillingham and the Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston.



From top: England and Greece line up for the national anthems at Fenton Manor Sports Complex; The England bench reacts to a vital Tin-Tin Ho win against Slovenia; keeping the autograph-hunters happy; Fireworks as Denise Payet enters the field of play before the play-off match against Spain.



# Cadet & Junior National Championships



**Junior Boys' Singles:** Tom Jarvis bt Matt Leete 4-2 (4-11, 11-3, 11-5, 11-6, 9-11, 11-5)

**Junior Girls' Singles:** Denise Payet bt Megan Gidney 4-1 (11-9, 11-6, 11-6, 5-11, 11-5)

**Junior Boys' Doubles:** Matt Leete & Josh Bennett bt James Smith & Ethan Walsh 3-1 (11-9, 5-11, 11-7, 11-7)

**Junior Girls' Doubles:** Denise Payet & Kate Cheer bt Mollie Patterson & Gauri Duhan 3-1 (11-9, 11-9, 5-11, 11-9)

**Junior Mixed Doubles:** James Smith & Denise Payet bt Matt Leete & Charlotte Bardsley 3-1 (7-11, 11-5, 11-8, 11-3)

**Cadet Boys' Singles:** Ethan Walsh bt Amirul Hussain 4-1 (8-11, 11-6, 11-9, 11-4, 14-12)

**Cadet Girls' Singles:** Charlotte Bardsley bt Megan Gidney 4-0 (12-10, 11-7, 11-5, 12-10)

**Cadet Boys' Doubles:** Amirul Hussain & Sam Chesterman bt Ethan Walsh & Joe Cope 3-1 (11-7, 11-9, 9-11, 11-3)

**Cadet Girls' Doubles:** Charlotte Bardsley & Megan Gidney bt Alice Dillon & Darcie Proud 3-0 (13-11, 11-5, 11-6)

## > Team winners

**Junior Boys:** Blades

**Junior Girls:** Burton Uxbridge

## > Consolation winners

**Junior Boys:** Naphat Boonyaprapa

**Junior Girls:** Mari Baldwin

**Cadet Boys:** Jack Rogers

**Cadet Girls:** Millie Rogove

Clockwise from top left: Israel Awolaja; Artur Caltabiano; James Smith & Ethan Walsh; junior champions Denise Payet & Tom Jarvis; Kirsty Maul; Charlotte Bardsley & Matt Leete



# U10-U13 National Championships



Twins Anna and Connor Green won their respective U11 titles

**U13 Boys' Singles:** Jamie Liu bt Louis Price 3-1 (5-11, 11-8, 11-7, 11-4)

**U13 Girls' Singles:** Sophie Chiang bt Mari Baldwin 3-2 (6-11, 11-9, 10-12, 11-5, 11-8)

**U13 Boys' Doubles:** Jamie Liu & Louis Price bt Naphong Boonyaprapa & Rhys Davies 3-2 (9-11, 5-11, 14-12, 11-9, 11-4)

**U13 Girls' Doubles:** Ruby Chan & Anaya Patel bt Millie Rogove & Samadhi Udamulla 3-2 (11-9, 11-7, 7-11, 9-11, 11-3)

**U12 Boys' Singles:** Naphong Boonyaprapa bt Felix Thomis 3-0 (11-7, 11-8, 11-7)

**U12 Girls' Singles:** Sophie Chiang bt Amy Marriott 3-0 (11-5, 11-1, 11-7)

**U11 Boys' Singles:** Connor Green bt Jakub Piwowar 3-0 (11-0, 11-7, 11-8)

**U11 Girls' Singles:** Anna Green bt Isabelle Lacorte 3-1 (11-7, 7-11, 11-9, 11-4)

**U10 Boys' Singles:** Oliver Maric-Murray bt Jakub Piwowar 3-0 (11-3, 11-6, 14-12)

**U10 Girls' Singles (round-robin):** Winner Bethany Ellis



Jamie Liu



Jamie Myska-Buddell

## National Cup: Final standings

### > Junior Boys

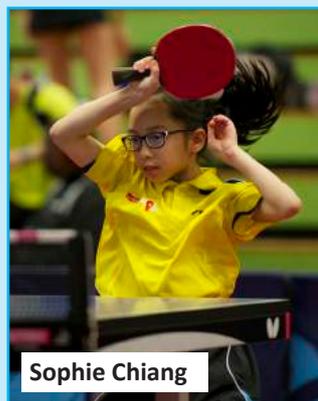
- 1 Tom Jarvis
- 2 Matt Leete
- 3 Luke Savill
- 4 Josh Bennett
- 5 Joe Clark
- 6 James Smith
- 7 James Hobson
- 8 Shayan Siraj
- 9 Samuel Kwan
- 10 Josh Harland

### > Junior Girls

- 1 Denise Payet
- 2 Mollie Patterson
- 3 Jasmin Wong
- 4 Kate Cheer
- 5 Gauri Duhan\*
- 6 Ruby Chan
- 7 Sarah Menghistab
- 8 Sophie Barlow

### > Cadet Boys

- 1 Ethan Walsh
- 2 Jamie Liu
- 3 Jonny Heslop



Sophie Chiang

- 4 Reece Chamdal
- 5 Josh Weatherby
- 6 Joe Cope
- 7 Sam Chesterman
- 8 Louis Price
- 9 Ben Fillingham
- 10 Thomas Rayner\*

### > Cadet Girls

- 1 Charlotte Bardsley



Naphong Boonyaprapa

- 2 Jasmin Wong
- 3 Mollie Patterson
- 4 Megan Gidney
- 5 Katie Holt
- 6 Darcie Proud
- 7 Ruby Chan
- 8 Alice Dillon
- 9 Danielle Kelly
- 10 Charlotte Weatherby

### > U12 Boys

- 1 Naphong Boonyaprapa
- 2 Jake Grayson
- 3 Felix Thomis
- 4 Ben Piggott
- 5 Bertie Kelly
- 6 Lewis Ellams
- 7 Arthur Bracken
- 8 Jakub Piwowar
- 9 Gene McGhee
- 10 Benjamin Greve

### > U12 Girls

- 1 Sophie Chiang
- 2 Amy Marriott
- 3 Romy Sawyer
- 4 Chloe Ambridge
- 5 Lola McGhee
- 6 Isobel McGerty
- 7 Lara Gimbuta
- 8 Megan Jones
- 9 Alana Richardson
- 10 Molly Rhodes\*

\*withdrew after day one

# Inter-Regional Championships



Olly Cornish



Moke Warburton



Samadhi Udamulla



Dan Hearne-Potton

## RESULTS

### Team

**Cadet Boys:** North West 3 South West 1

**Cadet Girls:** South East 3 East Midlands 1

**Under-13 Boys:** South West 3 North West 2

**Under-13 Girls:** East 3 South West 0

**Under-11 Boys:** East Midlands 3 London 1

**Under-11 Girls:** West Midlands 3 East Midlands 1

### Individual

**Cadet Boys:** Harry Watson (NW) bt Rhys Davies (NW) 3-2 (11-3, 6-11, 11-6, 9-11, 11-9)

**Cadet Girls:** Mari Baldwin (SW) bt Emily Haskell (SW) 3-1 (11-3, 12-10, 7-11, 11-3)

**Under-13 Boys:** Connor Green (EM) bt Bertie Kelly (SW) 3-2 (9-11, 11-5, 11-8, 11-13, 13-11)

**Under-13 Girls:** Moke Warburton (Y) bt Samadhi Udamulla (E) 3-1 (7-11, 11-8, 11-6, 11-9)

**Under-11 Boys:** Jake Hewitt (Y) bt Joseph Cooper (EM) 3-1 (9-11, 11-6, 11-5, 11-1)

**Under-11 Girls:** Sophie Richardson (NE) bt Constance Dumelow (EM) 3-1 (8-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-9)

### Overall team positions

1 East Midlands, 2 South West, 3 North West, 4 East, 5 South East, 6 West Midlands, 7 Yorkshire, 8= London, 8= North East, 10 Southern

# County Championships



Above: Les Smith was presented with a gift by Board member Mike Smith in thanks for his 36 years as administrator

Left: Yorkshire retained the Cadet Premier Division title for a fourth successive year. Pictured with Publicity Officer Barry Snowden are Ruby Chan, Jasmin Wong, Ben Fillingham, Freddie Osenton Brown and Jonny Heslop

## The champions:

### > Senior

Premier: Sussex  
 1A: Yorkshire  
 1B: Devonshire  
 2A: Lancashire  
 2B: Bedfordshire

### > Junior

Premier: Yorkshire  
 1A: Nottinghamshire  
 1B: Glamorgan  
 2A: Durham  
 2B: Worcestershire  
 2C: Middlesex II

### > Veterans

Premier: Nottinghamshire  
 1A: Northumberland  
 1B: Avon  
 2A: Nottinghamshire II  
 2B: Worcestershire  
 2C: Sussex II  
 2D: Wiltshire  
 3A: Warwickshire II  
 3B: Kent IV  
 3C: Bedfordshire II  
 3D: Somerset II

### > Cadet

Premier: Yorkshire  
 1A: Sussex  
 1B: Durham  
 2A: Glamorgan II  
 2B: Yorkshire II

### > Over-60

Premier: Yorkshire  
 1A: Cheshire  
 1B: Middlesex

The season saw a total of 237 teams entering the County Championships, one more than last season.

Teams representing most Counties in England and also some teams from our Welsh neighbours took part making it remain one of the most popular Table Tennis England competitions. It was disappointing that only 13 Counties entered all sections.

There is still a shortage of Girl and Women players. It is noted that as a result of the competition now being held over three Saturdays, overnight stays were reduced, resulting in less expenditure for counties.

The Senior Premier Division title was retained by Sussex, with Nottinghamshire taking the runners-up position. Dorset and Lincolnshire will be relegated.

This season the Junior Premier Division was staged over one weekend following a request from the counties, Yorkshire being champions and runners-up being Sussex. Lincolnshire and Devonshire will be relegated.

Nottinghamshire took the Veterans' Premier Division title, with last season's champions Leicestershire taking the runners-up spot. Hertfordshire and Sussex will lose their places in the top flight next season.

Yorkshire again retained the Cadet Premier Division for the fourth season, with Kent as runners-up. Lancashire and Devonshire are relegated.

This season the Over-60s' Premier Division was won by Yorkshire, with last season's champions Essex in the runners-up position. Lancashire and Lincolnshire are relegated.

The administration involved by the volunteers is significant, but despite being a small committee, it continues to do its best to ensure all divisions run smoothly.

Thanks go to all who helped with the administration of the County Championships this past season. Next season will see changes on the Committee as Les Smith, Administrator for the last 36 years, and Ken Eliot, who arranged the Premier Division weekends for the last 19 seasons, are standing down.

**County Championships Committee:** Chairman/Secretary/Administrator Les Smith; Assistant Administrator (Junior/Cadet) John Alsop; Assistant Administrator (Senior/Veteran/O60) Dave Goulden; Premier Weekend Organiser (Senior/Junior) Ken Eliot; Premier Weekend Organiser (Cadet/O60/Veteran)/Publicity Officer Barry Snowden; Referee Tim Harris; Deputy Referee Margot Fraser.

LES SMITH



Nottinghamshire won the Veterans' Premier Division

## ENGLISH LEAGUES CUP COMPETITIONS

The English Leagues Cup Competitions Finals took place at Westfield Table Tennis Club, Wellingborough over two very full days with some first-class matches played in sweltering conditions on the hottest weekend of the year.

Crawley & Horsham retained the two junior titles, while the senior trophies went the way of Nottingham and Warrington.

The Wilmott Cup for Senior men was won by Nottingham for the first time since 2008. Their line-up of Adam Jepson and David Arrowsmith beat Sheffield in the final.

Warrington (Rachel Baker, Zoe Cheeseman and Annie Hudson) defeated Hastings to claim the J M Rose Bowl for Senior women.

Both the Carter Cup for Junior boys and the Bromfield Trophy for Junior girls were won by defending champions Crawley & Horsham.

In the former, Josh Bennett and George Hazell overcame Wembley & Harrow B and in the latter, Kate Cheer and Alice Hazell defeated the Hull team.

Diane Webb stood down after 10 years as Chairman and organiser of the ELCC and received a gift of thanks.



**Top: JM Rose Bowl and Wilmott Cup winners Warrington and Nottingham**

**Above: Crawley & Horsham defended both the Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy**

**Right: Diane Webb stood down as organiser after 10 years**

## GRAND PRIX SERIES



**Overall singles champions Chris Doran and Karina Le Fevre**

Eight Grand Prix and three Satellite events were held during the season.

**The winners were:**

**Men's Singles:** Chris Doran

**Women's Singles:** Karina Le Fevre

**Men's Band 1:** Callum Evans

**Women's Band 1:** Emily Bolton

**Men's Band 2:** Adam Jepson

**Women's Band 2:** Charlotte Bardsley

**Men's Band 3:** Finn Morgan-Bayliss

**Women's Band 3:** Anna Hursey

**Men's Band 4:** Keir Morton

**Women's Band 4:** Federica Bonato

**Men's Band 5:** Lewis Palmer

**Men's Band 6:** Rafal Bajda

**Veteran Singles:** Rory Scott

**U21 Men:** Matt Leete

**U21 Women:** Anna Hursey

**Open Doubles:** No qualifiers



**Adam Ridley and Rory Scott competed at every Grand Prix**

## MIKE WATTS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



The Mike Watts Achievement Awards are presented to the girls and boy who make the greatest improvement in ratings points between August 1 and July 31 each year. The winners for 2015/16 were Jasmin Wong and Jonny Heslop, who were presented with their honours at the Pride of Table Tennis Awards ceremony at the PG Mutual National Championships.



# British League



Erin Thompson



Derby Arena hosted the JBL and VBL

## Senior British League

Premier Division .....	Drumchapel Glasgow
Championship.....	Urban
National A-1.....	Whitworth Academy
National A-2.....	Portsmouth
National B-1.....	Swerve
National B-2.....	Cardiff City II
National B-3.....	Fusion II
National B-4.....	Brighton
National C-1.....	Westfield
National C-2.....	Swerve II
National C-3.....	Halton III
National C-4.....	North Ayrshire II
National C-5.....	Kingfisher III
National C-6.....	Hillingdon
National C-7.....	Waterside

## Women's British League

Premier Division .....	YHL
Division 1 .....	XLNT Draycott II
Division 2 .....	York Gardens Angels
Division 3 .....	Burton Uxbridge II
Division 4 .....	MK Vixens
Division 5 .....	Burton Uxbridge III

## Veterans' British League

Premier Men .....	Bribar St Neots Saints
Premier Women .....	Market Rasen Ladies
Division 1A Men .....	Norwich
Division 1B Men .....	The Rams
Division 1 Women .....	Joola Morpeth
Division 2A Men .....	Hereford Challengers
Division 2B Men .....	Wolves Vets
Division 2 Women .....	Ellenborough
Division 3A Men .....	Archway Peterborough
Division 3B Men .....	Foresters B
Division 4A Men .....	Foresters C
Division 4B Men .....	Foresters D

## Junior British League

Premier Boys .....	London Academy
Premier Girls.....	Ellenborough
Division 1 Boys.....	Middlesbrough College
Division 1 Girls.....	London Academy
Division 2A Boys .....	Dublin A
Division 2B Boys .....	Halton
Division 2 Girls.....	Swerve
Division 3A Boys .....	Fusion II
Division 3B Boys .....	Wensum
Division 3 Girls.....	Bishop Auckland
Division 4A Boys .....	Ashford Brunswick
Division 4B Boys .....	Halifax B

The 2016/17 British League season has been yet another positive year, with a number of major changes being introduced.

The Senior British League's premier division moved to a home match format. The change was driven by the committee's ongoing mission to move towards a more professional structure.

There were a few teething problems but a significant consultation was undertaken with the clubs taking part and a number of adjustments are planned for next season.

On reflection, the season is deemed to have been successful with average crowds at each match varying between 30 and 40, but in some cases breaking 100. Live streaming was also introduced by the clubs themselves, using the new Facebook live service. This demonstrated the interest in viewing matches online, which is something the committee is continuing to investigate.

A new press officer, George Pratt, was brought in to cover the premier division events more thoroughly, which proved popular, and further enhancements are being considered for next season.

We still require more assistance with publicity and anyone interested in getting involved with press and publicity is requested to contact the BL Chair for more information.

This season also saw the introduction of a new structure for the senior league which now has a very simple pyramid structure. This enables faster promotion to the top flight for motivated clubs, a simpler promotion and relegation model, as well as enabling increased participation at the lower end through more regionally located divisions.

The introduction proved to be popular, with the BL maintaining its previous number of divisions.

The other formats of British League were also supported well, with all having



Senior British League Premier Division champions Drumchapel Glasgow



**Emma Rose**

a waiting list or holding play-offs to gain entry to the main event.

We wish to thank all the administrators and their teams for their efforts in ensuring this season was the success we have become accustomed to.

This season will be the last for a number of our team who have decided for one reason or another to retire from service. We wish to offer our sincere thanks to Alan Duke (VBL Referee) who served for 25 years and his assistant Brenda Baldwin who also served alongside him for 24 years; both were presented with a token of our appreciation at the beginning of the final VBL weekend.

Jason Ramage from the SBL committee will also retire from service at the end of this season and lastly Josh Reynolds retires as VNL Referee. Our sincere thanks must go to all those who are retiring and also to those who have offered to serve again next season.

A new team of Cliff Bell and John Mackey take up the roles of VBL Referee and Assistant Referee respectively.

Finally, a new group of volunteers headed by Jim Kenny will take over the running of WBL, releasing Amanda Robinson and her team from their supporting roles in this competition.

It is great that once more the

British League is 100% volunteer run. Amanda Robinson remains a member of the committee in her role as staff representative and Susie Hughes remains the board representative.

At the conference in June 2017 it was announced that the conference will no longer be held annually. This decision was taken in consultation with the Table Tennis England network review group and the full support of the Table Tennis England Board.

All clubs were consulted on this significant change and given a rationale document explaining the reasons this was felt to be the right move for the league. Every team in the league was given the option to vote on this proposal and it was carried with significant support.

From the 2017/18 season, there will no longer be a British League conference, instead all reports will be uploaded to the website and an electronic voting system will be provided for rule changes.

None of the democratic process that the conference afforded clubs will be lost, it will simply be handled electronically which actually makes the system more democratic as there is no barrier for clubs to voice their views or vote on proposed changes.

**CHRIS DANGERFIELD**



**JBL Girls Premier winners Ellenborough**

## British League committee

**Chairman:** Chris Dangerfield

**Secretary:** Gary Wood

Table Tennis England staff representative:

Amanda Robinson; WBL representative:

Amanda Robinson; JBL representatives:

Brenda Hudson, Richard Hudson; SBL

representative: Malcolm Macfarlane;

VBL representative: Gill Smith; Board

representative: Susie Hughes; Calendar

secretary: Alan Ransome OBE

**Press Officer:** George Pratt

**Photographers:** Melvyn Lovegrove, Chris Rayner, John Upham

### Senior British League

Chair: Chris Dangerfield; Secretary:

Gary Wood; Administrator: Malcolm

Macfarlane; Referee: Stuart Sherlock;

Member: Alan Ransome OBE

### Junior British League

Administrators: Brenda Hudson, Richard

Hudson; Referee: Steve Welch

### Veterans' British League

Administrator: Gill Smith; Referee: Alan

Duke; Assistant Referee: Brenda Baldwin

### Women's British League

Administrator: Amanda Robinson;

Referee: Karen Tonge MBE



**WBL Premier champions YHL**



**JBL Boys Premier winners London Academy**

## Pride of Table Tennis



“ We owe a massive debt of gratitude to all our volunteers, who invest so much of themselves into helping others to enjoy our wonderful sport. Pride of Table Tennis is our way of making sure they are recognised.

**A**s a governing body, one of the most important things we can do is to support and honour the volunteers who are the heartbeat of our sport.

Without the countless people who pour their time and energy into making sure others get the most out of their table tennis, our sport would simply not be able to function.

Often, members of this volunteer ‘army’ are referred to as unsung heroes. We want to make sure they do not remain unsung but rather are recognised and thanked for this huge contribution they make.

That was the main reason why we launched the Pride of Table Tennis Awards this year, building on the existing Volunteer Awards and drawing on nominations made by the table tennis family.

The awards recognise individuals and organisations who are committed to developing and improving participation and performance in the sport.

That might be through breaking down barriers of inclusivity, promoting diversity or nurturing talented youngsters, or positively impacting on people’s lives through table tennis in many other ways.

We received more than 200 nominations in the first year of Pride, and a total of 61 clubs around the country also awarded their own Club Volunteer of the Year awards.

It was my great pleasure to attend the inaugural presentation during the PG Mutual National Championships in Nottingham, and entirely appropriate that the ceremony took place during our flagship event, where the whole sport comes together.

Indeed, it is also an event where we can all see at first hand the wonderful work of so many volunteers, from the front-of-house team and crowd helpers to the scorers and media assistants, plus of course the dedicated team of organisers and umpires, plus all the coaches in the players’ corners.

And while not all of our volunteers can be at the Nationals and not all of them are nominated for, or receive, a Pride of Table Tennis Award, I want to assure each and every person who does give up their time that their efforts do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

I would also like to pay tribute to all those people who we honour at the AGM, many of whom have given a lifetime of service and whose commitment, enthusiasm and expertise are so vital to the continuing good health of our sport.

To all of those who give so much for the enjoyment of others, your commitment is valued and appreciated and we offer a sincere vote of thanks to each one of our volunteers.

**Sandra Deaton**  
Chairman, Table Tennis England

### Pride of Table Tennis Award winners

**Volunteer of the Year**  
Dennis Artess

**Young Volunteer of the Year**  
Liam McTiernan

**Coach of the Year**  
Mark Dare

**Contribution to Table Tennis**  
Brian Hall

**Technical Official of the Year**  
Margot Fraser

**Inclusivity Award**  
Neil Harris

**Club of the Year**  
Brandon & Byshottles

□ We are extending the Pride of Table Tennis Awards for 2016/17. We will have 10 categories, so every local hero has the chance to be nominated for their work in the 2016/17 season.

□ Nominated individuals are in contention to win a Regional Award and all Regional Award winners will then go forward to the Pride of Table Tennis National Awards.

□ Details of the awards and how to nominate can be found on the Table Tennis England website.

## Awards and thanks



Peter Bradley



Michael Close



Doreen Stannard



Chris Dangerfield



Roger Fensom



Margaret Welch



Colin Dyke



Ken Field



Margot Fraser



Stuart Gibbs



Brenda Hudson



Richard J Hudson



Martin Ireland



Ken Muhr



Derek Sherratt



Chris Brown

### **Tom Blunn Fund**

The following officials received grants:

Lyndon Griffiths  
Harry Jutle  
Eric Pentland  
Tom Purcell  
Derek Sidaway  
Russell Sutcliffe  
Alan Thomas

### **Ivor Montagu Junior Fund**

The following received grants:

Toby Ellis  
Jamie Liu

### **Honours bestowed on members at AGM**

**Honorary Past President**

Doreen Stannard

**Honorary life members**

Peter Bradley  
Michael Close

### **Vice-Presidents**

Colin Dyke  
Ken Field  
Margot Fraser  
Stuart Gibbs  
Brenda Hudson  
Richard J Hudson  
Martin Ireland  
Ken Muhr  
Derek Sherratt

### **Keith Ponting President's Memorial Award**

Doreen Stannard

**Malcolm Scott Award**

Chris Dangerfield

**Leslie Forrest Memorial Award**

Roger Fensom

**Ivor Montagu Award**

Margaret Welch

**AK Vint Staff Award**

Chris Brown

**Victor Barna Award**

Paul Drinkhall, Liam Pitchford, Sam Walker

### **The Johnny Leach MBE Most Improved England Player of the Year Award**

Tin-Tin Ho

**Appointed President**

Jill Parker MBE

**Re-elected as VPs for 2016-19:**

John Arnold MBE, John Blackband, Stan Clarke, Paul Day, Ken Eliot, Dave Evans, Barry Granger, Diccon Gray, Gerald Gurney, Tom Honey, Diana Jermyn, Malcolm Macfarlane, Ian Marshall, Len Pilfold, Rosemary Ponting, Derek Schofield, Eileen Shaler, Rob Sinclair, Roy Stevens, Mick Strode, Geoff Taylor, Derek Tremayne, George Tyler, Cyril Villiers MBE, Michael Wilson, Ray Yates

### **Maurice Goldstein Awards**

Ken Bennett (Cheshire TTA & Halton TTL)  
Sam Holland (Cheshire TTA & Halton TTL)  
Michael Townend (Huddersfield TTL)  
Cicely Palmer (Hereford TTL & CA)  
Phil Snelson (Aldershot TTL)  
Gordon White (Bournemouth TTL)

# Mission 2025 update

It is two years since the Board published the 10-year strategy called *Mission 2025*. The Board monitors progress regularly against an annual operating plan. Below is a summary of progress against each strategic priority. A fuller report is available on our website



## Places

### Increase the number of places to play

- Club database launched alongside a free club affiliation in addition to Premier Club to allow us to communicate with and support a wider network of clubs.
- Guide to accessing grants has been circulated to clubs and staff support is provided. £750k of capital money granted in 2015/16/17 to clubs.
- New short format league models trialled, as this is proven to attract more young players and females as well as aid retention.
- New Clubmark licence signed

and all development staff accredited as assessors.

- Be TT dedicated club and league support programme launched in May 2017.
- 135 new places to play created through the Satellite Club programme.
- Ping! expanded to 24 cities for 2017 programme.
- Ping Pong Parlours expanding, including strategic alliance with JLL management company, 20 planned for 2017.
- Loop venues now number 596, including 346 workplaces, 21 universities, 77 clubhouses and 152 community venues.

## People

### Increase the number of coaches, officials and volunteers

- Number of licensed and active coaches risen to c600 and on track to meet interim target of 750 by 2020.
- Level 3 qualification relaunched.
- 31 female coaching scholarships granted in 2016.
- Coach mentor scheme launched.
- Teacher Activator course rewritten and launched.
- Winning Edge coach magazine launched (6 editions to date).
- Online coach portal and CPD

modules launched.

- Pride of Table Tennis Awards launched, receiving 10 times more nominations than previous Volunteer Awards.
- Dedicated Volunteering Officer recruited.
- #iwill pledge made and promoted.
- L1 and L2 umpires' courses rewritten to help improve the officiating pathway
- Tournament Organiser course relaunched.
- Officials portal to be launched in 2017 to aid communication and tracking of qualifications.

## Performance

### Improve performance

- World Team Championships 2016 bronze medal.
- Best ever Olympic results attained at Rio 2016 – singles last 16 (Paul Drinkhall) and men's team quarter-finals.
- England Youth Squad restructured, some promising results being delivered at junior and cadet level.
- National Talent Academy launched in partnership with Ackworth School.

- Talent Development Centres programme expanded in 2015/16 with two more announcements.
- National Championships became invitational events (with group stages added back in 2017) and included para classification events. Show court created to be of broadcast standard.
- Successfully bid to host Europe Youth Top 10.
- Worked with British League Committee to support home and away for Premier Division including financial bursary.

## Participation

### Increase regular participation

- Activity delivered in 22 Priority Zones from 2015-17
- Final Sport England Active People Survey (December 2016) showed an upward trend of regular participants to 107,100, an increase from 102,600. Participants with a disability up from 32,500 to 35,500.
- 2016/17 Schools programme part funded equipment and activity in 87 schools.
- Jack Petchey Foundation partnership entered its seventh year in 2017, providing 238 tables and programmes to 70 schools and 10 youth clubs in London and Essex.
- Total of 159 Satellite Clubs delivered from 2013-17 engaging 9,264 young people, promoting school-club links. Future funding for satellite clubs secured from Sport England.
- Relationship with Premier League 4 Sport continued, leading to girls' only satellite festival to inspire girls to continue to participate.
- Different models of junior leagues which attract and retain young people promoted as 'best practice'.
- Loop in the Community includes national level relationships with U3A (table tennis delivered in a third of its chapters), MIND and Age UK, targeting specific groups.
- Pilots undertaken with Housing Associations partners with a view to longer-term working.
- Free associate membership launched, growing that category by 200%.
- Membership Benefits Club launched to deliver tangible benefits to player members. Personal accident insurance provided as a membership benefit from June 2016.

## Core objectives

### Staff

- Structured staff training and CPD and annual staff satisfaction survey introduced.
- All staff encouraged to undertake volunteering opportunities.
- Customer services team created from within existing staff.
- International recognition and improved relationships with ETTU and ITTF.

### Revenue

- Three months' operating costs achieved to meet with reserves policy.
- All Sport England reporting competed with commendations on transparency and completeness.
- New commercial

- opportunities achieved, including PG Mutual sponsorship of National Championships.
- Substantial overhead savings through use of technology and better working practices.
- Strategy of continual but incremental increases to membership affiliation announced.

### Image and Profile

- Unprecedented and industry 'first' live streaming partnership with SPORTbible.
- National Table Tennis Day growth year on year, attracting media and celebrity attention.
- Fan database grown to c50,000.
- Finalist in NGB of the Year category in BT Sport Industry Awards.

Sara Sutcliffe and Sandra Deaton represented the association throughout the Olympic Games. The International Federation afforded Sandra Deaton accreditation and hospitality at the allocated hotel and the British Olympic Association through their relationship with Sara invited our international colleagues to an outstanding lunch at the magnificent British House.

The Association continues to have a close relationship with both the European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) and the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF). Sandra and Sara attended the ETTU congress in Budapest where the election of officers and the executive board was held, with Ronald Kramer being elected for a further four-year term.

The elections took place for the European representatives on the ITTF Board of Directors. The ETTU has an allocation of seven representatives plus the chairman. The board agreed to nominate Sandra Deaton for consideration. She was elected with the highest number of votes, becoming a member of the ITTF Board of directors.

Sandra was also reappointed as ETTU Youth Committee chair and has attended the European Youth Championships in Zagreb, the Europe Youth Top 10 in Prague and the first ever European U21 individual championships in Sochi. Table Tennis England had player representation at all the events.

Susie Hughes was appointed to the Veterans' Committee and has been invited to attend the ETTU championships in Sweden. Stuart Sherlock remains on the Technical Committee and Malcolm Macfarlane on the Ranking Committee.

At the recent World Championships the ETTU held its mid-year congress, with Sandra Deaton and Susie Hughes representing our Association. There was a presentation on the analysis of the European qualification process and considerations of future team championships formats. All member associations have an opportunity to input into the way forward by completing an online questionnaire which has already been circulated. The European Table Tennis Union continues to support its membership with development opportunities for talented athletes and through coaching courses.

The ITTF AGM took place at the World Championships in Düsseldorf. Sandra Deaton and Susie Hughes represented Table Tennis England. The focal point of this year's meeting was the election of the president and the executive board. There were two candidates for the role of president, the incumbent Thomas Weikert and Jean-Michel Saive. After a considerable amount of campaigning by both candidates, the member associations voted for Thomas Weikert for a further four-year period.

Our Board supported the campaign for Thomas as it was agreed he has the experience needed to keep the sport moving forward through development opportunities and with continual integrity and transparency.

The Board of the ITTF were pleased to announce the addition of two more member countries, taking the total to 226 – the highest number of members for any International Federation, with a representation from every country of the world. Such is the draw of our sport.

Sandra Deaton attended her first Board of Directors meeting. A code of ethics was presented with the president and Executive Board conveying sincere thanks to Sara Sutcliffe, who has had a significant input into the formulation of the document.

In November Sara Sutcliffe travelled to Kenya as part of a UK Sport-funded leadership programme. She spent three days with the Kenyan Table Tennis Association, helping them formulate a longer term strategy and presenting at a national conference. The ITTF promoted and supported the visit as part of its Developing National Associations programme and the intention is to continue to work with Kenya to help them develop table tennis.

The AGM of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation took



**Above: Thomas Weikert was re-elected as ITTF President; Left: Table Tennis England dignitaries and guests at British House during the Olympics**

place in Düsseldorf, where the hosting of the next Championships was awarded to the Table Tennis Federation of India. The event will be staged in the early summer of 2019.

Hopes that a Championships was going to be played in Scotland earlier this year did not come to fruition, as the Scottish Association were unable to attract sufficient resources to stage it. However, Scotland remain very keen to host the Commonwealth Championships and have lodged an indication of interest for the 2021 event.

The next major Commonwealth event is the Games, at the Gold Coast in Australia between 4 and 15 April 2018. The format is to be very similar to that of 2014 in Glasgow with the main events for men's and women's teams, men's and women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles.

Disability events are to be included in the Gold Coast for both standing men and women, after a gap in Glasgow. The table tennis event will run for approximately 10 days throughout the Games.

A presentation with information about the 2018 Games was made to all of the Associations by the Competition Manager Jens Lang, in Düsseldorf.

The relationship between the Commonwealth Federation and the International Table Tennis Federation continues to grow closer and an application for affiliation from the Commonwealth to the ITTF is currently under consideration, together with closer links between the two organisations regarding the marketing and promotion of the Commonwealth Championships.

Two Commonwealth members – Bruce Burton of Canada and James Morris of New Zealand – were elected to the ITTF Executive Committee in Düsseldorf.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all our members we are holding the Europe Youth Top 10 at the Worcester Arena from 8-10 September, 2017. Please come along and see our Juniors and Cadets compete with the best in Europe.

We will continue to push forward on our major events strategy by working closely with our international colleagues.

**SANDRA DEATON (additional report by Alan Ransome OBE)**

# Who's who

## Honorary Life Members & Vice-Presidents

### Honorary Life Members

Peter Bradley, Peter Charters, Tony Chatwin, Martin Clark, Colin Clemett, Michael Close, Aubrey Drapkin, Peter Hillier, Mike Holt, Laurie Landry, Alex Murdoch, Alan Ransome OBE, Richard Scruton, Les Smith, Mike Smith, Doreen Stannard, Karen Tonge MBE, Harvey Webb, John Wright, Doug Young, Richard Yule

### Deceased Honorary Life Members

The Dowager Lady G Swaythling, AF Carris, GW Decker, LE Forrest, IGS Montagu, AK Vint OBE, PE Warden, CG Woodcock, M Goldstein, WE Stamp, IC Eyles, FGJ Mannocho, E Reay, LS Woollard, T Blunn, N Cook, G James, C Jaschke, PW Hyde, F Milligan, ME Scott, GR Harrower, CM Wyles OBE, K Watts, GR Yates, LLE Thompson, H Walker, AJH Wickens, AE Upton, EG White, J Jermyn, RJ Crayden, KTO Ponting, MWJ Lewis, NK Reeve

### Vice-Presidents

Malcolm Allsop, Leslie Allwood, Pat Archdale, John Arnold MBE, Mike Atkinson, Dave Berriman, John Blackband, John Burtenshaw, Barry Chapman, Stan Clarke, Jim Clegg, Michael Close, Alan Cooke, Colin Davison, Paul Day, Mrs Sandra Deaton, Desmond Douglas MBE, Colin Dyke, David Edwards, Ken Eliot, Dave Evans, Ken Field, Margot Fraser, John Freeman JP, Stuart Gibbs, Barry Granger, Diccon Gray, Gerald Gurney, John Hilton, Tom Honey, Brenda Hudson, Richard B Hudson, Richard J Hudson, Alan Hydes, Colin Hyland, Martin Ireland, Nick Jarvis, Diana Jermyn, Gail Johns, Ann Jones CBE, Vanda Jones, Sheila King, Brian Lamerton, Christine Lewis, Philip Lewis MBE, Jia Yi Liu, Dorothy Macfarlane, Malcolm Macfarlane, Kenneth Marchant, Derrick Marples, Ian Marshall, Ken Matthews, Carole Moore, Ken Muhr, Valerie Murdoch, Denis Neale, Jeff Neslen, Doreen Nightingale, Mike Payne, Sir Jack Petchey CBE, Len Pilfold, Rosemary Ponting, Erica Preat, Jose Ransome, Graham Rogerson, Jackie Sands, Derek Schofield, Carol Seward, Eileen Shaler, Stuart Sherlock, Rob Sinclair, Brian Skinner, Gill Smith, Roy Stevens, Mick Strode, Geoff Taylor, Peter Taylor, Ken Tonge, Derek Tremayne, Graham Trimming, Geoff Twiss, George Tyler, Cyril Villiers MBE, Ron Washington, June Watts JP, Diane Webb, Steve Welch

## Support & Advisory Network

### SUPPORT COMMITTEES

#### Marketing and Communications

#### British League Committee

See page 33

#### Calendar Working Party

Chairman Harvey Webb; Secretary Di Jermyn; Mike Atkinson; Amanda Robinson; Steve Welch; Gary Whyman

#### County Championships Committee

See page 30

#### English Leagues Cup Competitions Committee

## Our Board



**Sandra Deaton**  
Chairman



**Susie Hughes**  
Deputy Chairman



**Keith Thomas**  
Treasurer



**Sara Sutcliffe**  
Chief Executive



**Simon Griew**



**Phil Huggon**



**Andrew Nixon**



**Tom Purcell**



**Kelly Skeggs**



**Mike Smith**



**Anna Lisa  
Tazartes**



**Jill Parker MBE**  
President

Chairman Diane Webb; Secretary Richard Hudson; Martin Day  
**National Cadet and National Junior Leagues Committee**

Chairman Mike Atkinson, Zach Ferris

#### Technical Officials Committee

Chairman Stuart Sherlock; Secretary Colin Clemett; David Edwards; Margot Fraser; Brian Jackson; John Mackey; Amanda Robinson; Steve Smith; Karen Tonge MBE. **Specialist Panels:** Referee Review - Stuart Sherlock; Steve Smith; Karen Tonge MBE; Steve Welch. Tournament Management Officials - Stuart Sherlock; John Mackey; Amanda Robinson. Tournament Organisers - TBA; Amanda Robinson. Training and Development - Karen Tonge MBE; David Edwards; John Mackey. Umpire Selection - Margot Fraser (Secretary Foreign Competitions); David Edwards (Secretary Domestic Competitions); Lynda Reid

## National Council representatives

**Avon:** David Hockney, Vacant

**Bedfordshire:** Alex Murdoch, John Alsop

**Berkshire:** Colin Dyke, Allan Bruton

**Bucks:** Ronald Hedley, Susan Hayes

**Cambridgeshire:** Brian Freer, Valerie Parkes

**Cheshire:** Karen Tonge MBE, Ray Jackson

**Cleveland:** Alan Ransome OBE, Colin Davison

**Cornwall:** Diana Jermyn, Kevin Fudge

**Derbyshire:** Tony Chatwin, John Cowell

**Devonshire:** Phil Goulding, Andrew Millman

**Dorset:** Les Whittaker, Neil Hardisty

**Durham:** Allan Thompson, Peter Whitfield

**Essex:** Philip Ashleigh, David Humble

**Gloucestershire:** Les Smith, Janie Kirby

**Hampshire:** David Turner, Brian Lamerton

**Herefordshire:** Harry Jutle, Toby Eckley

**Herts:** David Edwards, Andrew Walker

**Isle of Wight:** Vacant, Vacant

**Kent:** Neil Le Milliere, Clive Hollingsbee

**Lancashire:** Geoff Rushton, Vacant

**Leicestershire:** Shirley Pickering, Mike Holt

**Lincolnshire:** George Tyler, David Brown

**Middlesex:** Michael Close, Doreen Stannard

**Norfolk:** Trevor Vincent, Vacant

**Northamptonshire:** Rod Barr, Vacant

**Northumberland:** John Donnelly, Nigel Coe

**Notts:** Malcolm Allsop, Brian Rimmer

**Oxfordshire:** Neil Hurford, John Birkin

**Shropshire:** Chris Dangerfield, Terry Ridgway

**Somerset:** Ian Hooper, Vacant

**South Yorkshire:** Robert Loxley, Jim Kenny

**Staffordshire:** Vacant, Cliff Bell

**Suffolk:** Brian Davison, Vacant

**Surrey:** Margot Fraser, Tony Laws

**Sussex:** Tony Catt, Steve Pound

**Warks:** Estyn Williams, Malcolm Macfarlane

**Wiltshire:** Charles Sewell, Vacant

**Worcestershire:** Martin Clark, Lynda Reid

**Yorkshire:** Richard B Hudson, Barry Snowden

#### KEY

**County:** National councillor, deputy

## Tournaments Committee

Chairman Steve Welch; Secretary Di Jermy; Margot Fraser (TOC); Shawn Haskell, Amanda Robinson; Harvey Webb; Margaret Welch

## Operations

### Archives, Museum and Records Committee

Chairman Diane Webb; Secretary Rob Sinclair; Holly Baker; Colin Clemett; Ken Eliot

### Board of Appeal

Chairman Murray Rosen QC; Deputy Chairmen Graeme McPherson QC, Christopher Quinlan; Clerk Nigel Gibson-Birch; Secretary Holly Baker; Katherine Apps; Mike Bishop; Angus Bujalski; Ashley Cukier; Peter Diver; Alan Darfi; Roger Fennemore MBE; Gary Whyman

### Disciplinary Committee

Chairman Estyn Williams; Secretary Holly Baker; Ken Field; Richard Habgood; Craig Milner; Lynda Reid; Gordon Sanders  
Reserve: Gary Whyman; Investigator: Judy Rogers

### Returning Officer and Scrutineers

Returning Officer Caroline Williams; Scrutineers Angela Bowness; John Bowness; Paul Nichols; Jim Palmer

### Rules Committee

Chairman Colin Clemett; Secretary Jonathan Bruck; David Adams; Lynda Reid; Estyn Williams

## REGIONAL STRUCTURE

### Regional Forum

Chairman Phil Goulding; Secretary Jonathan Bruck. Regional Chairmen: East: Brian Davison; East Midlands: Shirley Pickering; London: TBA; North East: Colin Davison; North West: Karen Tonge MBE; South: David Turner; South East: Kim Mudge; South West: TBA; West Midlands: Martin Clayton; Yorkshire: Bokmun Chan. Board Representatives: Sandra Deaton, Susie Hughes, Mike Smith, Sara Sutcliffe; Keith Thomas. Good Standing Representatives Karen Tonge MBE (BPTT); Mike Smith (BUCS); John Arnold MBE (ESTTA); Lynda Reid (VETTS); Simon Mills; Emily St John; Mark Taffler; Greg Yarnall

### Regional Committees

Regional Chairman (appointed by Board); Vice-Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer; Coaching Co-ordinator; Competitions Co-ordinator; (elected by Regional Committee), County Elected Representatives: minimum 1, maximum 3 - including preferably National Councillor or Deputy National Councillor and Coaching Officer; Good Standing Representatives: BPTT, BUCS, ESTTA, VETTS (appointed by their Organisation); Table Tennis England Area Development Lead or representative(invited)

## ADVISORY - INDIVIDUAL ADVISERS

### Development

**Facilities - TBA** (jointly with Operations); **Participation and Membership Development - Adult** Dan Lines; **Children and Young People/ Schools** John Arnold MBE; **Clubs - Colin Dyke**; **Disability - Shaun Newcomb**; **Leagues - Vaughan Allington**; **Universities - Mike Payne**

### Marketing and Communications

**Membership - John Cowell, Russell Sutcliffe** (jointly with Operations); **Sponsorship - Ray James**; **Grand Prix - David Evans**; **National Championships - Stuart Sherlock**

### Operations

**Child Protection Case Management Group - Phil Goulding**;

**Procurement - Ian Sidgwick** with scrutineers Caroline Williams; Peter Wilson

### Talent and Performance

**Performance - Kevin Satchell**; **Ranking - Malcolm Macfarlane**

### Workforce

**Volunteering - Graham Frankel**

## Our staff (as at 31/3/17)

Chief Executive ..... Sara Sutcliffe

### Operations

Head of Operations ..... Jonathan Bruck

Finance Administrator ..... Samantha Garey

Finance Assistant ..... Supriyaa Parthiban

Safeguarding & Ethics Manager ..... Judy Rogers

Customer Insight Officer..... Rachel Elsley

Membership & Rankings Manager ..... Justine Campbell

Membership & Rankings Administrator ..... Jessica Kratovil

Department Administrator ..... Holly Baker

Receptionist & Office Administrator.....Abi Gabb

### Marketing & Communications

Head of Commercial ..... Mark Taffler

Senior Communications Officer ..... Paul Stimpson

Marketing Communications Officer ..... Jamie Gordon

Competitions & Events Manager..... Amanda Robinson

Competitions & Events Officer ..... Zach Ferris

Competitions & Events Officer ..... Martin Day

### Development

Head of Development ..... Emily St John

Adult Participation Manager ..... Keely Armit

Clubs Officer ..... Claire Brockwell

Children & Young People Manager ..... VACANT

Schools Officer..... Luke Smith

Projects Officer ..... Helen Dennett

Ping! Innovation Officer ..... Andy James

Ping! Marketing & Media Officer ..... Julie Snowdon

Mass Participation Administrator ..... Jade Hills

### Workforce

Head of Workforce ..... Greg Yarnall

National Workforce & Education Officer ..... Aled Howell

Coaching Co-ordinator ..... Sandra Pelizzoni

Volunteer Development Officer ..... Lucy Budworth

### Performance

Head of Talent & Performance ..... Simon Mills

Head Coach ..... Alan Cooke

National Youth Coach ..... Matt Stanforth

Talent Pathway Manager & Coach..... Marcus Gustafson

National Talent Academy Coach ..... Matjaz Sercer

Performance Administrator ..... Melanie Allen

### Talent coaches

Plymouth ..... Paul Whiting

Nottingham Sycamore..... Chris Turner

### Staff based remotely

#### Area Development Leads

South West ..... Chris Brown

London & South East ..... John Andrews

Central ..... Mark Willerton

North ..... Martin Ireland

#### Development Officers

South West ..... Lee Monk

Gemma Parry

London & South East ..... Duncan Jenkinson

Kieron Pelling

Central ..... Helen Lower

Chris Newton

North ..... Andrea Holt

Sally Shutt

The following have left the organisation this year: Neil McGuigan, Steve McFadyen, Caroline Howkins, Alex Bunney, Hong Hong Peebles, Jane Barella, Nick Jarvis, Lisa Williams, Craig Bryant.

The following left the organisation on 31/3/17 as a result of a necessary restructure: John Andrews, Helen Lower, Kieron Pelling, Luke Smith and Rida Iqbal.

# Financial reports



The year 2016/17 was the final year of the four-year 2013-17 Sport England Whole Sport plan cycle. We have therefore provided comparisons of key figures over the cycle as well as this year's figures.

The majority of Sport England funding continues to be ring-fenced with clear outcomes and outputs required to maintain this funding.

This is the last year of the Sport England four-year funding cycle, with 2017-21 having a new focus on the core (clubs, coaches, volunteers and leagues) of the sport.

Membership benefits were enhanced this year with a new partnership with Parliament Hill and the introduction of Personal Accident insurance for all player members and registered volunteers.

Due to the reduction in funding from Sport England for the new funding cycle (2017-21) and the consequential need to make six posts redundant and the associated costs, I am pleased to report a small surplus for 2016/17 of £3,453.

Sport England continues to be our largest contributor (63%). Table Tennis England income generated is made up from a number of budget lines, the key ones being partnership funding from capital projects and coaching course income.

The performance programme continued to deliver over and above expectations and in acknowledgment of this, and the successful qualification to the Rio Olympics, we received 'rapid response' funding from UK Sport of £58,000 to support the team's preparation.

With increased participation in domestic competitions, income derived from these has increased, although overall the income still does not cover the costs.

Last year saw the creation of the Workforce department which focuses on the development of volunteers and coaches. This refocus allowed an increased number of coaching courses, a review and improvement to a number of courses and a review of the volunteer pathway.

The Capital funding of £375,000 was fully utilised supporting large projects to the value of £100,000, smaller projects to £8,000 and tables placed in the workplace, schools, youth clubs and housing estates.

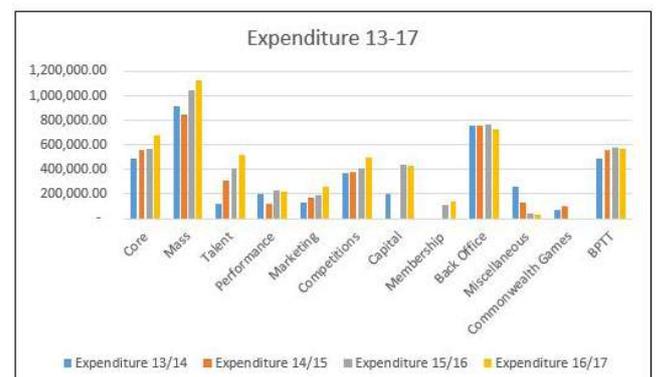
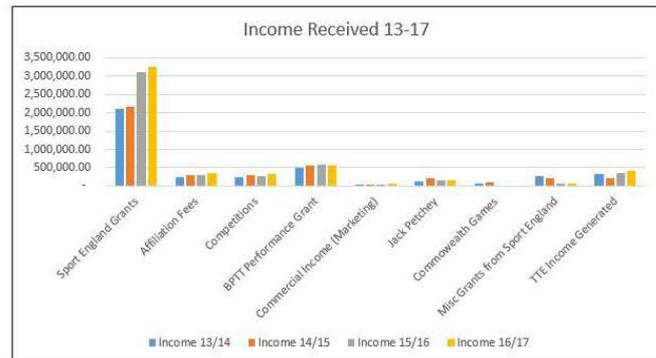
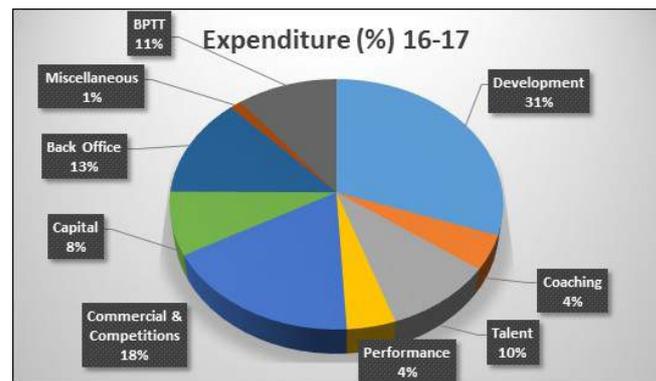
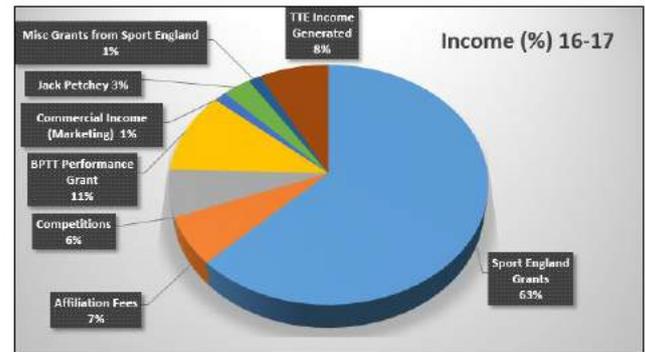
Operational costs continue to be monitored carefully with a new two-year agreement with our landlords at the same rent agreed three years ago.

The outsourced finance system has now been successfully embedded into the operation, saving both time and money, and will be upgraded in 2017-18.

The CRM system is producing data and information which will be utilised to develop and deliver focused programmes helping to understand what needs to be delivered to our members and its impact on our sport.

The Jack Petchey Foundation continues to support Table Tennis England and the Children and Young People team. After six years, the project goes from strength to strength, enriching the lives of young people in London and Essex through table tennis.

**KEITH THOMAS, TREASURER**



## English Table Tennis Association Ltd

### Income and Expenditure

for the year ending 31st March 2017

	2017			2016		
	Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure (Net Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure (Net Income)
<b>Coaching &amp; Performance</b>						
Coaching	237,063	98,345	138,718	204,647	72,409	132,237
Talent & Infrastructure	521,584	-	521,584	410,254	-	410,254
Commonwealth Games	-	-	0	-	-	0
Performance	229,554	117,386	112,168	234,032	110,152	123,880
	988,201	215,731	772,470	848,932	182,562	666,371
<b>Development</b>						
Area Team	522,469	-	522,469	491,693	-	491,693
Clubs	36,662	-	36,662	35,407	-	35,407
Children & Young People (Note 1)	268,222	161,940	106,281	211,982	155,884	56,098
Satellite Clubs	123,409	-	123,409	62,294	-	62,294
Adult Participation	202,246	45,519	156,727	174,931	6,071	168,861
Disability	67,407	328	67,079	55,581	-	55,581
PING	292,127	39,766	252,360	249,019	5,150	243,869
Capital	431,228	56,228	375,000	439,504	64,504	375,000
Infrastructure	137,323	14,424	122,899	132,490	15,041	117,449
	2,081,092	318,206	1,762,887	1,852,902	246,649	1,606,254
<b>Marketing &amp; Communications</b>						
Competitions	512,222	338,372	173,849	411,300	263,769	147,531
Marketing & Communications	256,262	73,303	182,959	189,958	19,995	169,963
Membership Costs	139,420	-	139,420	106,511	-	106,511
	907,904	411,675	496,229	707,770	283,764	424,006
<b>Operations</b>						
Meetings	50,334	-	50,334	56,187	-	56,187
Staff Costs	310,613	-	310,613	378,303	-	378,303
IT Development	88,302	-	88,302	112,724	-	112,724
Other Core Costs	240,134	-	240,134	206,497	-	206,497
Sport England	-	3,263,009	(3,263,009)	-	3,104,638	(3,104,638)
Affiliation Fees	-	339,860	(339,860)	-	287,672	(287,672)
Sponsorship	-	22,000	(22,000)	-	30,750	(30,750)
Ranking & Tournament Levies	-	47,438	(47,438)	-	40,124	(40,124)
Bank Interest	-	2,461	(2,461)	-	2,646	(2,646)
Other Income	-	56,710	(56,710)	-	10,177	(10,177)
	689,383	3,731,479	(3,042,096)	753,711	3,476,007	(2,722,296)
<b>Other</b>						
BTTAD Performance Grant (note 2)	567,448	567,448	0	581,325	581,325	0
Other Grants	0	0	0	1,385	1,385	0
Regions (note 3)	31,518	24,461	7,057	41,235	31,647	9,588
	598,966	591,909	7,057	623,945	614,357	9,588
	5,265,547	5,269,001	(3,453)	4,787,261	4,803,339	(16,078)

# Financial reports

## Notes to Income and Expenditure Report

### For the Year Ended 31 March 2017

- Note 1 The Jack Petchey Foundation Grant is included in Income in 2017  
The grant has been matched against related expenditure
- Note 2 The British Para Table Tennis Association (BPTTA) is the governing body for performance of UK table tennis for people with disabilities and is funded by UK Sport. As the Lead Nation, the ETTA has been authorised through a service level agreement, approved by UK Sport to administer the funds and reports directly to UK Sport and the BPTTA Performance Monitoring Group
- Note 3 Ten regional committees operate around the country under the auspices of English Table Tennis Association Limited. All income and expenditure of the Regions is included in the income and expenditure account. The net funds of Regions are included in the Balance Sheet.

**ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER:04268068

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2017**

	2017 £	As restated 2016 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	36,310	35,060
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks	4,822	13,653
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	107,250	200,327
Cash at bank and in hand	1,050,151	1,146,136
	<u>1,162,223</u>	<u>1,360,116</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(738,951)	(939,047)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>423,272</b>	<b>421,069</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b><u>459,582</u></b>	<b><u>456,129</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Testimonial funds	34,207	35,057
Income and expenditure account	425,375	421,072
	<u>459,582</u>	<u>456,129</u>



**John Dignum**



**Derek Sherratt**



**Derek Tyler with his wife, Josine**

**John Dignum:** A member of the ETTA Management Committee from 2003-2013, John was Vice-Chairman of Administration from 2003-11 and of Operations from 2011-13. He chaired the ETTA Membership Committee from 2006-2010 and also served on the Honours Committee for a decade.

John served continuously on the Bromsgrove & Redditch TTL committee since 1991, having previously been based in the South East, joining the Hastings & District TTA committee in 1966 and later becoming a member of the Maidstone TTA committee.

Among his other positions were Information Manager at the 1997 World Championships, 1995 European Championships and 2002 Commonwealth Games and Information Director at the 1998 Veterans' Worlds. He was in charge of hospitality at the English Opens of 1999 and 2001; Print Room Manager at the 2009 event and in charge of ticket sales and front desk in 2011.

The ETTA recognised his contribution with the Maurice Goldstein Award in 1997 and the Malcolm Scott Award in 2010. A year later, he became a Vice-President.

**Derek Sherratt:** Qualified as a County Umpire in 1982, becoming a National Umpire in 1991 and joining the IU ranks in 1994. Attained Blue Badge status on May 10th, 2010.

Derek officiated at many major tournaments, including the World Championships in China (1995), Manchester (1997), Kuala Lumpur (2000) and Rotterdam (2001); European Championships in Birmingham (1994), Slovakia (1996) and Italy (2003 and 2008); Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002, Olympic Qualifiers in the same city in 1996, Commonwealth Championships (Glasgow, 2009), five English Opens and two Euro Top 10s.

Derek also officiated at more than 30 National Championships since 1990, at every age group.

National Councillor from Staffordshire since 2008 and General Secretary of Staffordshire CTTA since 1982, Derek was awarded the Maurice Goldstein Award by the ETTA in 2005 and was a Vice-President of Table Tennis England.

Derek was Vice-Chairman of the English Table Tennis Umpires' Association since its inception in 2004.

**Ray Yates:** The oldest surviving Vice-President, an award he achieved in 1991, Ray was a former Regional Chairman and was previously awarded the Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy in 1986.

He served as Chairman and President of both the Southampton TTA and the Hampshire TTA in a long career in the sport. He was also a County Umpire and was non-playing captain of the Hampshire senior team and manager of the county's veteran team over many years.

He held the office of Chairman of the ETTA's Southern Region Development committee from 1981 to 1993.

**Derek Tyler:** A Table Tennis England Vice-President, Derek was

*Note: Please notify us of the passing of individuals within leagues and counties so that they can be remembered*

active in the Hastings League for many years. He was a President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Vice-President and General Secretary at different times.

Derek was also active in his county of Sussex and was the Sussex Open official organiser from 1957-1975. At National level Derek was an ETTA Appeals Committee Member.

He passed his National Umpires' exam in 1958 and became an International Umpire in 1974, officiating at three World Championships in 1957, 1977 and 1993 as well as Commonwealth Championships in Cardiff, European Championships, many English Opens, National Championships and International matches.

**Michael Wilson:** Former Durham National Councillor, Michael was one of three founder members of Sunderland TTC in 1989. He went on to be Chairman from 2001 to 2010, Development Officer from 2001 to 2014 and acting Treasurer from 2012 to 2014. In the Sunderland and District League, he was Registrar from 1993-98, Chairman from 1998 to 2014, Press Officer from 1997 to 2009 and Development Officer from 1997 to 2014. He was elected a Life Member in 2010.

He also served at both regional and national level, as Development Officer of Durham County TTA from 1997 to 2014, Vice-Chairman from 2007 to 2014 and Press Officer from 2006 to 2011. He was elected a Life Member in 2010.

Nationally, he was National Councillor for Durham from 1998 to 2014, a member of Membership Committee from 2009 to 2014, received the Maurice Goldstein Merit Award in 2010 and became an ETTA Vice-President in 2013.

## We also remember . . .

**John Lawton** (International Umpire, Middlesbrough & District TTL Chairman)

**Ron Bolton MBE** (Nottingham & District TTA Chairman and General Secretary)

**Gerry Stokes** (Preston TTA General Secretary and President)

**Martin Kinsella** (Sheffield League, Irish national champion)

**Fred Hayman** (Chelmsford & District TTL)

**Brian Savage** (Chairman, Draycott & Long Eaton Table Tennis Club, County Umpire, Tournament Organiser)

**Jim West** (Eastbourne TTL President)

**Jim Smith** (Hemel Hempstead TTL, Maurice Goldstein award 1994)

**Geoff Williamson** (Lichfield League Secretary and former National Councillor)

**Roger Bowkett** (Volunteer award winner 2016)

**George Gale** (Chelmsford TTL Life Member)

**Val Roffe** (National Umpire)

**Robin Aston** (Banbury & District TTA Chairman)

# *A sport for all, for life*

## Acknowledgements

Edited by Paul Stimpson

Photography by Michael Loveder,  
Alan Man, Steve Parkin, Trevor Parsons, John Upham, ITTF

Printed by iprint mk

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

President: Jill Parker MBE

Chairman: Sandra Deaton

Deputy Chairman: Susie Hughes

Treasurer: Keith Thomas FCA

Company Secretary: Sara Sutcliffe (Chief Executive)

English Table Tennis Association Ltd  
Registered in England and Wales No 4268058

Registered Office  
Norfolk House  
88 Saxon Gate West  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 2DL



This report is also available online at [tabletennisengland.co.uk](http://tabletennisengland.co.uk)